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CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA.

LABOUR REPORT.

No. 35.

1945 and 1946.

Prepared under Instructions from
THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE TREASURER,
by
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PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the thirty-fifth of the series and deals chiefly with 1945 and 1946, in addition to giving comparisons for previous years. Some of the tabulations, however, include particulars relating to 1947.

The Report follows the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement. The subject-matter has been divided into five Chapters, viz., Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages (including Hours of Labour); Employment and Unemployment (including Industrial Disputes), and Associations (Labour Organizations). The index at the end of the volume will considerably facilitate reference.

Chapter III. contains a summary of the nature and extent of the controls imposed in connexion with the movement of wage rates during and since the recent war.

International comparisons of Wholesale and Retail Prices, Wage Rates and Hours of Labour, which were omitted from the Report during the war period owing to the unsatisfactory nature of some of the data, have been restored in this issue.

In tabulating the results of investigations as to rates of wage, labour organizations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following grouping has been adopted in this Report:—

Groups of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

Secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail traders, house agents, and others have readily supplied much information specially for the purposes of this Report, and my thanks are tendered to all who have thus assisted.

Grateful acknowledgment is also made of the continued assistance given by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices.

Special acknowledgment is made to Mr. H. G. Downing, the officer in charge of Labour Statistics in this Bureau, and to the staff under his control, for the care and attention given to the compilation of this Report. This opportunity is taken to record that Mr. Downing, who served in the Bureau continuously since its inception in 1906, reached the retiring age on 24th November, 1946. He was engaged in the Labour and Industrial Branch from 1922 onward, except for a short break between 1929 and 1933, at which latter date he was placed in charge of the Branch. His retirement will be a great loss to the Bureau.

ROLAND WILSON,
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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
Canberra, A.C.T., September, 1947.

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CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

§ 1. Collection of Information as to Retail Prices.

The retail prices of the extensive range of commodities and services in common demand (commonly referred to as the " regimen ") used in compiling the All Items (" C " series) Retail Price Index (see list on pages 10–12 hereof) have been ascertained at frequent and regular intervals since 1923 for each of the six capital cities and for 27 of the more important towns of Australia. Comparable information is available for the month of November in each year 1914 to 1922 for each of the six capital cities.

The prices of food and groceries in approximately 200 towns throughout Australia were collected as at November of each year from 1913 to 1942 when collection was temporarily suspended as a war-time economy.

Retail prices of food and groceries and average rentals of houses for earlier years extending back to 1901 were collected by this Bureau, and in some cases have been recorded by the Statisticians of various States as far back as 1864.

The methods by which prices used in the " C " series retail price index-numbers are ascertained and the measures adopted to ensure their accuracy and comparability are briefly as follows :—

(i) Representative and reputable retailers are selected for each city and town covered by the collection and each is required to furnish a return of prices monthly in respect of food and groceries and quarterly in respect of other items. Prices for each item are obtained where practicable from about ten retailers in each of the capital cities, and from about five retailers in each of the provincial towns.

(ii) These returns are collected under authority of the *Census and Statistics Act* 1905–1946 which requires that returns be supplied accurately and promptly and ensures that particulars supplied by individual retailers will not be divulged to competitors or to any other person or Government authority. Penalties are provided against failure to supply returns, against supplying false information, and against failure to answer truthfully any question asked by an authorized officer in respect of the contents of the return.

(iii) The actual collection of returns is carried out by qualified Field Officers of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics working under the supervision of the Statisticians of the respective States. These Field Officers have very wide powers of investigation, including entry of premises and inspection of goods, records, etc.

(iv) The Field Officers not only receive and check returns but visit the retail shops concerned, whenever necessary, to verify returns. In respect of articles of clothing and the like where variation of quality may be considerable Field Officers are equipped with samples of the goods used for price comparisons. In such cases the Field Officers visit every retail informant at each quarterly collection and personally inspect the relevant goods and prices thereof.

(v) Before each quarterly collection Supervising Field Officers review the whole of the items for which prices are collected after making extensive inquiries among manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. These Supervising Field Officers periodically accompany Field Officers at their price collections and check their work. This not only ensures accuracy and assiduity but also that all Field Officers work on uniform lines and that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for identical goods and quality will be recorded at all times and for all places.

(vi) The list of items in the regimen and the standards thereof are revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing conditions. Where such changes become necessary suitable adjustment is made in computing the retail price index to ensure that it reflects changes in price with due precision and that it is not vitiated by the influence of other changes. (*See also* § 9, p. 31 hereof).

(vii) Returns of rents for unfurnished houses of four and five rooms are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number (ranging up to 30) of house agents in each city and town, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to number of rooms. These returns show the weekly rental of a substantial number of individual houses each of which is selected by the Field Officer as suitable for inclusion in a sample designed to measure the quarterly ratio of change in weekly rentals. The aim is to measure variations which may be equivalent to change in price for a constant standard. The ratio of change is used to vary basic average rentals derived from the Census of 1933 and other records. Although expressed in money terms, the average rentals as published are essentially indexes. As such they do not necessarily indicate the average amount of rental actually paid for all rented houses, and still less do they indicate the rental at which vacant or new houses can be rented.

§ 2. Retail Price Index-Numbers.

1. **General.**—The basic principle of a retail price index-number is relatively simple. It is to select commodities representative of the field to be covered and to combine their prices at regular intervals in accordance with their relative importance in that field. The aim is to measure the degree of change in prices for the selected field taken as a whole.

In practice the application of this principle over a term of years presents great difficulty by reason of the numerous changes which occur in the type, grade and quantities of many of the items commonly used.

A full explanation of the methods adopted and an analysis of problems involved is contained in the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.

For convenience the group of selected items is called a " regimen ", and the quantities consumed per annum of each item used in the index are called " mass units " or " weights ". These terms are used herein. In compiling the index the price of each item is multiplied by its quantity " weight " and then by its appropriate population or household " weight ". The sum of these products for all items at any given date represents an " aggregate expenditure ". The " aggregate expenditures " for successive periods are converted into an index by denoting the aggregate of a selected or " base " period as 1000, and calculating all index-numbers to such base by the proportions which their aggregates bears to that of the base period.

2. **Essential Features.**—Apart from clear thinking, common sense and sound arithmetic, the prime essentials in compiling a retail price index are—

(*a*) that prices be accurately ascertained at regular intervals for goods of constant grade and quality;

(*b*) that the regimen be as representative as possible of the field to be covered;

(*c*) that the weights be in approximate proportion to quantities actually used in the selected field.

3. **The Regimen.**—The regimen must be a selected regimen because it is impossible in practice to ascertain at regular intervals prices of every item of goods and services entering into household expenditure. Even in normal times there is considerable difficulty in ensuring that the selected items are always a true sample. Some items which it would be desirable to include must be excluded because comparative prices cannot be accurately ascertained for them at different times and different places. It is deemed better to limit the regimen of the index to items for which price variations can be ascertained with reasonable accuracy than to distend the regimen by including items for which price comparisons are necessarily inaccurate. Similarly, many items of small aggregate or individual importance are excluded. The regimen of the index therefore is not (as is sometimes erroneously supposed) a basic wage regimen nor yet is it a full list of component items in a standard of living. It does not imply that any particular goods or any selected grades or quantities of these goods should enter into determination of a basic or living wage. In fact the regimen used for the "C" series retail price index-number is simply a selected list of items combined in certain proportions for the purpose of measuring price variations. The items are representative of the fields covered, and the proportions approximate to those in average consumption so far as can be ascertained.

The "regimen" and "weights" used in the "C" series retail price index-numbers are published in full on pages 10 to 12.

4. **Purpose of Retail Price Index-Numbers.**—The retail price indexes are designed to measure the extent of changes in price levels only. While they may be used as indicating proportionate variations in cost of a *constant* standard of living, they do not measure the absolute cost of any standard of living, nor the cost of changes in the standard of living. In other words, they measure as nearly as may be the proportionate change in the aggregate cost of specified quantities and qualities of the selected "regimen" of items included in the index. The regimen is representative of a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households.

5. **Effects of War Conditions on Index.**—Under war-time conditions scarcity of certain types of goods, erratic supply and changes of grade due to standardization created unusual difficulty in obtaining the data necessary for measuring variations in prices and this difficulty still obtains. In some instances, this has rendered it necessary to substitute new grades, qualities or types of articles for those formerly used as indicators of changes in price. This has been the case more particularly in the clothing, household drapery and household utensils sections of the index. Substitutions of similar kind were necessary at times under normal conditions in order to meet changes of fashion and usage. In themselves, such substitutions are not injurious to the index provided the transitional difficulties can be solved as they arise. No change in principle is involved. The index continues to measure, as accurately

as may be, price variations, and price variations only. Just as in the pre-war period, application of multipliers (called "grafting factors") serves to neutralize those differences in prices which are solely due to substitution of a new item for one which has ceased to be available or in common use. The net effect of this process is that the price of the old item is taken as typical of price variation in its class up to the time of substitution, and the prices of the new item as typical of such changes in price thereafter.

In normal times, popular usage of items in general consumption changes slowly and the weight of items and groups in the regimen is changed only at long intervals. In war-time scarcity of supplies of some goods, rationing and kindred factors actually produce substantial changes in usage both long term and short term. The weights of the retail price indexes have not been changed and continue as in pre-war years. (See § 9 (2) hereof.)

The "C" series retail price index, as published, measures the aggregate variation in prices of the regimen of items adopted in peace times in peace-time proportion. This ensures comparability of the index on that specific basis. Its practical significance under war conditions is limited because a single index cannot take into account all changes that occur.

If it were practicable, it would be desirable to compile an additional index to measure variations over the war period, having regard to the fact that the relative consumptions of some items of the regimen have been altered by war conditions, and that the prices of some items not included in the regimen have moved differently from the variations recorded by the "C" series index. This would provide an alternative method of comparison presenting another aspect of price movement in war-time.

§ 3. Various Series of Retail Price Index-Numbers.

Two main series of retail price index-numbers are compiled and shown in some detail in the following pages, viz.:—

(i) the "B" series relating only to food, groceries and housing, continuously available since 1907;

(ii) the All Items ("C" series) relating to food, groceries, housing, clothing, household drapery and utensils, fuel and light, and other miscellaneous items of household expenditure, continuously available from 1914.

The "B" series comprises only the food, groceries and housing sections of the All Items ("C" series) index. Reference is made on pages 34 to 37 of this Report to the "A" series and the "D" series (no longer compiled), the "Court" series and various other series of retail price index-numbers.

Although considerable space is given herein to the "B" series index-numbers (see page 26), reference to them should be made only in respect of the movement in prices in the three sections (food, groceries and rent) which they embrace.

Subject to consideration of special war-time influences, the "C" series in total provides a reliable measure of aggregate variations in retail prices (as well as of group indexes for component sections) of a high percentage of goods and services used in wage-earner households. This index is compiled for:—

(*a*) the capital city of each of the six States,

(*b*) four other principal towns in each of the six States,

(*c*) weighted average of five towns (including capital city) in each of the six States,

(*d*) weighted average for the Six Capital Cities combined,
(*e*) weighted average for the Thirty Towns (including capital cities),
(*f*) separate indexes for Warwick, Port Augusta and Canberra.

This index forms the basis of the "Court" series index used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the "cost of living" adjustments of wages prescribed by awards made by the Court. (See §§ 10 and 11 of this Chapter.)

§ 4. Retail Price Levels ("C" Series Index) 1914-1946.

1. **Significant Dates.**—The aggregate indexes for 1914, 1921 and 1939 to 1946 for the Thirty Towns are published in summary form on page 21 hereof, while the following table furnishes the relevant index-numbers for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, for certain significant dates since November, 1914—the earliest date for which this index is available.

ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES.

(*Base :* 1923–27 = 1,000.)

1914, November	687	(Beginning of War I.)
1918, November	905	(End of War I.)
1920, November	1,166	(Post-War peak)
1922, November	975	(Post-War trough)
1929, Year	1,033	(Pre-Depression peak)
1933, Year	804	(Depression trough)
1939, September Quarter	916	(Pre-War II.)
1943, March Quarter	1,123	(Pre-Price Stabilization)
1943, June Quarter	1,143	(War II. peak)
1945, September Quarter	1,126	(End of War II.)
1945, December Quarter	1,129	
1946, December Quarter	1,156	

These indexes reveal a rise of approximately 32 per cent. during the first world war, followed by a further rise of 29 per cent. in the two post-war years (November, 1918, to November, 1920). From November, 1920 to November, 1922, there was a fall of 16 per cent., and the index remained relatively stable until the onset of the depression in 1929. During the four years of the depression 1929 to 1933 the index fell by 22 per cent., rising thereafter steadily until 1939 when it was nearly 14 per cent. above the level of 1933, and approximately at the level it had occupied at the date of the Armistice of 1918. Between the outbreak of war (September, 1939) and March, 1943, the index rose by approximately 23 per cent. to a level slightly below that reached at the height of the post-war boom in 1920, while at December quarter, 1946, the level was almost identical with that of the 1920 peak-period.

Price control was established by the Government immediately after the outbreak of the war under Regulations dated 28th September, 1939, and a national policy of price stabilization was applied as from 12th April, 1943, backed by more stringent price control and price subsidies. The retail price level, as measured by the index, remained relatively steady throughout the year 1944 and during the year 1945 at the level of March, 1943. This stabilized level is approximately 23 per cent. above that of 1939 and 63 per cent. above the level prevailing at the beginning of the first world war in 1914.

An account of price control measures and of price stabilization in Australia was published in the *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth* No. 36 page 404.

2. **The All-Items ("C" Series) Index, Six Capital Cities, 1914-1946.**—The movement in the various sections of the index, and in the index as a whole for each year for which it has been compiled is shown in the following table for the six capital cities as a whole :—

The All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index and its Sectional or "Group" Index-Numbers for the Six Capital Cities combined, 1914 to 1946.

(*Base of Each Section : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities*, 1923–27 = 1,000) (*a*).

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Rent (4 and 5 Rooms). (*c*)	Food, Groceries and Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) "B" Series).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All Items ("C" Series).
1914 (*b*)	641	649	644	754	749	687
1915 (*b*)	842	659	777	792	786	782
1916 (*b*)	812	665	760	881	802	795
1917 (*b*)	836	685	782	992	882	847
1918 (*b*)	861	722	812	1,097	972	905
1919 (*b*)	1,026	768	934	1,238	1,036	1,022
1920 (*b*)	1,209	851	1,082	1,365	1,194	1,166
1921 (*b*)	950	877	924	1,246	1,010	1,013
1922 (*b*)	945	929	939	1,052	999	975
1923	1,009	950	988	1,045	999	1,003
1924	969	988	975	1,003	1,004	987
1925	998	1,008	1,002	991	992	997
1926	1,023	1,026	1,024	986	998	1,011
1927	1,000	1,030	1,011	975	1,008	1,002
1928	985	1,066	1,014	997	1,010	1,009
1929	1,044	1,073	1,054	996	1,007	1,033
1930	941	1,047	978	951	999	975
1931	826	901	852	853	973	873
1932	796	817	803	804	958	830
1933	751	804	768	787	950	804
1934	783	810	792	785	944	817
1935	806	839	818	783	946	832
1936	825	879	844	792	947	850
1937	851	912	872	811	960	873
1938	886	942	906	829	961	897
1939	927	965	939	841	962	920
1940	939	973	950	956	998	957
1941	947	976	956	1,118	1,060	1,008
1942	1,031	976	1,007	1,308	1,112	1,091
1943	1,037	975	1,011	1,440	1,160	1,131
1944	1,026	976	1,004	1,435	1,165	1,126
1945	1,034	975	1,009	1,425	1,161	1,126
1946	1,036	976	1,010	1,505	1,167	1,145
Quarter—						
1939—March ..	935	959	942	832	960	919
June ..	925	963	938	836	961	917
September ..	920	967	936	836	961	916
December ..	927	969	941	858	967	926
1942—March ..	991	977	983	1,216	1,095	1,053
June ..	1,025	976	1,003	1,285	1,099	1,081
September ..	1,055	976	1,022	1,342	1,110	1,106
December ..	1,051	976	1,019	1,388	1,144	1,122
1943—March ..	1,040	975	1,012	1,409	1,149	1,123
June ..	1,058	975	1,023	1,466	1,158	1,143
September ..	1,036	975	1,010	1,450	1,165	1,133
December ..	1,015	975	997	1,436	1,168	1,123
1944—March ..	1,020	976	1,000	1,434	1,166	1,124
June ..	1,026	976	1,004	1,429	1,165	1,125
September ..	1,036	975	1,010	1,433	1,164	1,129
December ..	1,022	975	1,002	1,442	1,163	1,126
1945—March ..	1,028	975	1,005	1,421	1,161	1,123
June ..	1,037	975	1,011	1,416	1,161	1,125
September ..	1,040	975	1,013	1,415	1,161	1,126
December ..	1,030	975	1,007	1,448	1,161	1,129
1946—March ..	1,036	976	1,010	1,456	1,164	1,134
June	1,042	976	1,014	1,494	1,167	1,145
September ..	1,029	976	1,006	1,521	1,167	1,146
December ..	1,037	976	1,011	1,550	1,170	1,156

(*a*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9. (*b*) November. (*c*) See footnote (*b*) on page 9.

§ 5. Increases in Retail Prices since Outbreak of War in 1939.

1. **Australia.**—The following statement shows for the Six Capitals separately, and as a whole, the percentage increases which have taken place in retail prices from the September quarter 1939, to the December quarter 1946, inclusive. The proportionate increase in the total index for each capital city is shown in the line marked "Total". The column headed "C" series index dissects the total percentage rise to show what part of it was due to the rise in prices in each of the four main groups of items. Thus, of the 26.2 per cent. increase for Sydney 4.5 was due to food and groceries, 0.1 to house rent, 16.9 to clothing and 4.7 to miscellaneous items. The column headed "Group Index" shows the percentage increase in prices of items in each group considered as a group. Thus, for Sydney, prices in the food and groceries group increased by 12.6 per cent., house rents by 0.4 per cent., prices of clothing by 84.9 per cent. and prices of miscellaneous items by 25.1 per cent. These when weighted and combined in the proportion of the "C" series index showed a rise of 26.2 per cent. For the Six Capital Cities as a whole the increase over the period was 26.2 per cent.

Group.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Food and groceries	4.5	12.6	4.4	12.0	5.8	16.5
House rent ..	0.1	0.4	0.4	1.7	0.2	0.9
Clothing ..	16.9	84.9	17.4	88.5	18.2	86.1
Miscellaneous ..	4.7	25.1	3.8	19.6	4.0	19.5
Total ..	26.2	26.2	26.0	26.0	28.2	28.2

Group.	Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.		Six Capitals.(a)	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Food and groceries	4.3	12.2	4.3	11.4	6.7	18.3	4.6	12.7
House rent ..	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.9
Clothing ..	16.3	77.6	17.3	85.2	17.2	82.9	17.2	85.4
Miscellaneous ..	4.2	19.8	4.0	20.4	3.5	18.1	4.2	21.7
Total ..	24.9	24.9	25.7	25.7	27.6	27.6	26.2	26.2

(a) Weighted average.

The foregoing comparisons refer to two points of time (i.e., the months immediately preceding the war and the closing months of 1946), at each of which special temporary factors may have influenced relative price levels. For instance, prices of certain foods (e.g., meat) fluctuate with seasonal conditions. The percentage increases shown do not, therefore, necessarily indicate the degree of increase due solely to war causes.

2. **International Comparisons.**—The following table shows the increase during this period in Australia and certain other countries. The increases during the 1914–19 War have also been included.

Retail Price Index-Numbers.

(FOOD, RENT, CLOTHING, MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.)

Date.	Australia.	Great Britain.	Canada.	New Zealand.	Union of South Africa.	United States of America.
			(*A*): 1914–1919.			
	(*a*)				(*b*)	
1914 July	100	100	100	100	100(*c*)	100
1915 Year	114	125	97	108	103	102
1916 „	116	148	102	115	106	109
1917 „	123	189	130	125	114	128
1918 „	132	203	146	135	118	156
1919 „	149	208	155	145	126	175
			(*B*): 1939–1946.			
1939—					(*a*)	
September Quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100
1940—Year(*c*) ..	105	119	105	104	104	100
1941—Year(*c*) ..	110	104	111	108	109	105
1942—Year(*c*) ..	119	129	116	111	118	116
1943—Year(*c*) ..	124	128	117	114	126	123
1944—				(*b*)		
March Quarter ..	123	129	118	114	128	123
June „ ..	123	129	118	114	130	124
September „ ..	123	130	118	114	129	126
December „ ..	123	129	118	114	132	126
Year	123	129	118	114	130	125
1945—						
March Quarter ..	123	130	118	114	132	126
June „ ..	123	131	118	114	133	127
September „ ..	123	132	119	114	133	128
December „ ..	123	131	119	114	133	128
Year	123	131	119	114	133	127
1946—						
March Quarter ..	124	131	119	115	134	129
June „ ..	125	131	121	115	136	131
September „ ..	125	131	124	115	134	143
December „ ..	126	131	126	115	136	150
Year	125	131	123	115	135	138

(*a*) November. (*b*) Food, Fuel, Light and Rent. (*c*) Average for year 1914.

(*a*) Food, Rent and Miscellaneous Expenditure. (*b*) Old Index as varied by New War-time Index (Base December Quarter, 1942 = 100). (*c*) Quarterly indexes appear in preceding issues.

At various stages during the 1914–19 War most of these countries introduced some measures of price control. But at an early stage in the 1939-45 War these countries introduced price control measures which became more stringent as the war progressed, culminating in a policy of price stabilization.

Immediately after the outbreak of war in September, 1939, the Commonwealth Government took steps to control prices, and, by proclamations issued from day to day, pegged prices of various commodities at those ruling on 31st August, 1939. The National Security (Prices) Regulations which were proclaimed on 28th September, 1939, under the authority of the National Security Act, and established the basic principles of war-time price control, provided for the appointment of a Commonwealth Prices Commissioner and conferred upon him extensive powers to control the price of goods declared for that purpose by the Minister for Trade and Customs. A brief summary of the development of this control is published in Official Year Book of the Commonwealth, No. 36, page 404.

§ 6. Construction of All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.

1. **The "Regimen".**—The "regimen" from which the "C" series retail price indexes are compiled consists of a list of commodities and services which commonly enter into the consumption of the average household in respect of which comparative prices can be ascertained with due precision from time to time and place to place. (See Section 2 (3.) hereof.) The regimen is divided into the following Groups and Sections :—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries	A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing	D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing	E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years) J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous	K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

The All Items "C" series index includes the whole of the foregoing Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for individual Groups or Sections. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau :—

Group. (*a*)	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5 rooms)(*b*)	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 rooms) ("B" Series)	Quarterly
III.	Clothing	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series)	Quarterly
I.	Food and Groceries ("200 Towns" Series) (*c*)	Yearly

For convenience of reference several of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

(*a*) "Group" or "Sectional" index-numbers in the various tables throughout this Report cannot be compared with each other in order to show the *relative cost* of Food and Groceries, Housing, Clothing or Miscellaneous requirements, since each "Group" or "Section" (or combination thereof) has its own Base = 1,000, viz., the weighted average cost for the Six Capital Cities as a whole during the five-yearly period 1923–1927 for that "Group" or "Section". (*b*) *Rent.*—The rent index-numbers shown in the tables in this Report measure the proportionate rise and fall in the average weekly rentals paid for houses of four and five rooms taking corresponding houses throughout. They are "price" indexes in the strict sense, i.e., they are designed to measure only the "price" element in rent fluctuations. Similarly, "average rents" where shown are indexes of "price" changes in rentals expressed in terms of pence. They are not the average of rents actually paid by all tenants of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It would be inappropriate to include the average of rents actually paid in an index designed to measure price changes only. The average of rents actually paid is ascertained periodically by Census methods—(*see also* page 2 hereof). (*c*) Compilation suspended as a war time economy after November, 1942.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table :—

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.

GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

No.	Item.	Unit.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita.)	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost—Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1946. (a)	
	SECTION A.—GROCERIES.				
1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered)	2-lb. loaf	100	3.03	
2	Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	25	0.59	
3	Flour, self-raising	2-lb. pkt.	12	0.48	
4	Tea	1-lb. pkt.	8	1.18	
5	Sugar, white granulated, IA	1 lb.	100	2.18	
6	Rice, polished (Australian)	1 lb.	8	0.16	
7	Sago, seed tapioca	1 lb.	1	0.04	
8	Jam, plum	1½-lb. tin	8	0.51	
9	Golden Syrup	2-lb. tin	1	0.04	
10	Oats, flaked, loose	1 lb.	8	0.17	
11	Raisins, seeded	1-lb. pkt.	5	0.36	11.38
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown	1 lb.	2	0.11	
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown	1 lb.	1	0.10	
14	Peaches, canned	30-oz. tin	3	0.23	
15	Pears, canned	30-oz. tin	1	0.08	
16	Salmon, in tins	1-lb. tin	3	0.35	
17	Potatoes, new and old	7 lb.	18	0.82	
18	Onions, brown	1 lb.	14	0.20	
19	Soap	1 lb.	16	0.62	
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk	quart	4	0.13	
	SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.				
21	Butter, factory "choicest"	1 lb.	30	3.35	
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild	1 lb.	4	0.36	
23	Eggs, standard, new laid	1 doz.	6	0.72	
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle	1 lb.	12	1.49	9.12
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened	1 tin	5	0.28	
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled	quart	72	2.92	
	SECTION C.—MEAT.				
	Beef (fresh)—				
27	Sirloin (Roast) (bone in)	1 lb.	18	1.28	
28	Prime Rib (Roast) including bone	1 lb.	22	1.28	
29	Steak—Rump	1 lb.	11	1.22	
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing)	1 lb.	20	1.07	
31	Sausages	1 lb.	7	0.31	
	Beef (corned)—				
32	Silverside	1 lb.	14	0.92	
33	Brisket, rolled	1 lb.	15	0.74	
	Mutton (fresh)—				
34	Leg	1 lb.	20	1.24	11.99
35	Forequarter	1 lb.	15	0.53	
36	Loin, without flap	1 lb.	4	0.21	
37	Chops—Loin	1 lb.	30	1.75	
38	Chops—Leg	1 lb.	10	0.63	
	Pork (fresh)—				
39	Leg	1 lb.	3	0.25	
40	Loin, best end	1 lb.	3	0.27	
41	Chops	1 lb.	3	0.29	
	GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.				
42	House Accommodation(b)	week	52(c)	19.44	

(a) "C" Series continued on pages 14 and 15. (b) Four and five roomed houses. (c) Per household.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—*continued.*

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
	SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.	
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67
2	Trousers, working, Woollen Tweed (Australian)	2.00
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	1.00
5	Shirt, Fashion, with two collars ..	1.67
6	Shirt, Working, Drill	4.00
7	.. ..	..
8	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves) ..	1.00
9	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
10	Underpants, Wool (full length) ..	1.00
11	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts" ..	1.00
12	Sox, All Wool .. *a* (4.65)	2.00
13	.. ..	..
14	Braces	1.33
15	Handkerchief, Cotton	6.00
16	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
17	Pullover, All Wool	1.00
18	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf ..	0.50
19	Boots, working, Box Hide ..	1.50
	SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.	
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	* 0.50
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25
22	.. ..	..
23	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	0.75
24	Hat, Straw	1.50
25	Frock, ready-made, Cotton ..	1.50
26	Frock, ready-made, Art Silk ..	1.50
27	Brassiere, Cotton Brocade ..	4.50
28	Undervest, Wool and Art Silk ..	1.50
29	Undervest, Art Silk	1.50
30	.. ..	..
31	Bloomers, Art Silk	4.50
32	Princess Slip, Art Silk	1.00
33	Stockings, Art Silk	6.00
33A	.. ..	..
34	Stockings, Lisle	3.00
35	Gloves, Fabric	2.25
36	Gloves, Nappa	0.75
37	Nightdress, Art Silk .. *a* (2.49)	1.50
38	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
39	.. ..	..
40	Apron, Cotton	6.00
41	Cardigan, All Wool	0.50
42	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid ..	1.50
43	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50
	SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).	
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
	SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—*contd.*	
46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
47	Cap, Skull, Cloth	1.50
48	.. ..	..
49	Shirt, Sports	5.00
50	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves) ..	1.00
51	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
52	Braces	1.00
53	Stockings, Golf, All Wool ..	4.00
54	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
55	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
56	Shoes, Box Yearling .. *a* (3.13)	1.00
57	.. ..	..
	SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS).	
58	Tunic, Wool	1.00
59	.. ..	..
60	Dress, Cotton	3.00
61	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian) ..	0.33
62	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian) ..	1.00
63	Hat, Straw	2.00
64	.. ..	..
65	Petticoat, Art Silk	1.00
66	Singlet, Silk and Wool	0.50
67	Singlet, Art Silk	0.50
68	Bloomers, Cotton, fleecy-lined ..	2.00
69	Bloomers, Art Silk	2.00
70	Sox, Ankle, Cotton and Art Silk..	4.00
71	Pyjamas, Winceyette	0.33
72	Pyjamas, Art Silk	0.33
73	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
74	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
75	Shoes (school), Box Yearling ..	1.50
	SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).	
76	Shirt, Ranger	3.00
77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
79	Hat, Cloth	1.33
80	Singlet, Wool	1.00
81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
82	Sox, Ankle, Cotton and Art Silk ..	4.00
83	Pyjamas, Winceyette	2.00
84	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00

* The Mass Units were raised by 50 per cent. throughout this Section to restore its due proportionate "weight" in the Clothing Group of the Index as from September quarter, 1936.

(*a*) Mass Unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—*continued*.

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).
	SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.	
1	Blankets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.07
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair).. ..	0.14
3	Quilt, D.B. Marcella	0.25
4	.. ..	..
5	Sheets, D.B. (pair)	0.50
6	Sheets, S.B. (pair)	1.00
7	Pillow Slip, Cotton	5.00
8	Towel	3.00
9	Table Cloth	0.20
10	Tea Towel (yard)	4.00
	SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.	
11	Cup and Saucer (Stone China)..	2.00
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China ..	2.00
13	Jug, Quart (Earthenware) ..	1.00
14	Teapot, Brownware (2-pint) .	0.25
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6½-inch	1.00
16	Tumbler (8-oz.)	1.00
17	Kettle, Enamel (4-pint) *a* (0.37)	0.20
18	.. ..	..
19	Saucepan, Enamel (3-pint) ..	0.40
20	Bucket, Galvanized (11-inch) ..	0.20
21	Dipper, Galvanized (2-quart) ..	0.20
22	Broom, Millet	0.50
23	Broom, Hair, complete (12-inch)	0.33
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch) ..	1.50
25	Mop, Polishing, complete ..	0.20

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).
	SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—*continued*.	
26	Knife, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
27	Spoon, Tea	0.08
28	Spoon, Dessert	0.08
29	Fork, Table	0.10
30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled)	2.00
31	Iron, Electric (full size) ..	0.10
	SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.	
32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (*b*) ..	40
33	Gas, cooking (units) (*b*) ..	1,518
34	Electric lighting (units) ..	130
35	Electric power (units) (*b*) ..	130

No.	Item.	Amount per week (per household).
	SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.	
36	Union Dues	*d.* (*c*)
37	Lodge Dues	} 24
38	Medicine	
39	Newspapers	(*c*)
40	Recreation	24
41	Smoking	(*c*)
42	Fares	(*c*)
43	School requisites	4½

(*a*) Mass Unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted.

(*b*) Standard mass-units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass-units differ from the standard.

(*c*) A definite basic amount per week is provided for each of these items, and varied in accordance with Resolution 20 of the Conference of Statisticians, 1936.

2. **The Mass Units (or "Weights") and Method of Tabulation.**—(i) The "mass units" (or "weights") are multipliers representing the approximate average annual consumption *per head or per household* under normal conditions. The index numbers are computed on a "total annual aggregative expenditure" basis, i.e., the total annual expenditure from time to time by a *standard population* in respect of the selected regimen of commodities and services commonly entering into household consumption, and of a constant *standard quality*. As a first step, therefore, it is necessary to multiply the price of each item by its "weight" per head or per household as the case may be. Thus, the "weight" of bread is 100 2-lb. loaves per head; of sugar 100 lb. per head; of towels 3 per household; and of housing 52 rent-weeks per household. The result of this initial calculation is designated the "P.MU" aggregate (i.e., Prices x Mass Units).

The sum of the above "P.MU" results for each Section or Group is then multiplied by its appropriate population or household "weight" to produce the respective annual aggregate expenditures. Thus, Sections A to C (Food and Groceries) would be multiplied by the total population; Section D (Housing) by the total number of households; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportion of the total population applicable to each; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households.

The combination of the aggregates from the last paragraph gives the "total annual aggregate expenditure" for the whole regimen, from which the "C" Series index-number is derived by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for any period bears to the aggregate selected as the base period of the Index. In the process of tabulation all prices are converted to pence for these final aggregates.

For tabulating purposes some of these "mass units" are varied when necessary to make up a deficiency or cancel out an excess in the aggregate resulting from a *change in the standard* of any item upon which prices are collected, to ensure that such changes shall not be wrongly recorded by the index as *variations* in prices. The "mass units" published above, however, still continue to show the correct *relative* consumption "weights" actually applicable to the commodities and services in the regimen for the *constant standards* used in the index. See also Sections 2 (3) and 6 (3) of this chapter.

(ii) The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they follow those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (see p. 106). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years; and the section for the boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

(iii) In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the weights given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. The "weight" of individual food items has not been adjusted to take account of war-time scarcities and rationing. Foods which are unavailable temporarily or intermittently are retained in the index at the latest recorded price.

(iv) Foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fresh fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen because comparable prices for a standard grade cannot be obtained from time to time or place to place and because of marked seasonal fluctuations in supplies and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy of the index. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices.

Some cuts of meat, for example, are excluded because they are not uniformly standardized. Mutton is included and not lamb because the latter, in many places, is available only seasonally. However, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the "cuts" included in the index. Proprietary lines of breakfast foods are excluded because they are not universally available.

(v) In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the "weights" adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. The "weights" allotted to articles of clothing and miscellaneous household requirements are based largely on the results of the inquiries of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission published a "regimen" for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its "Indicator List". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question was followed substantially in the original compilation of the All Items ("C" series) index, and has been adjusted by subsequent investigations of the Bureau to accord with changes in popular usage. The mass units used for fuel and light are based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until the September quarter of 1936 fixed amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, but since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary certain of these amounts periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

(vi) The "weights" allotted to the items have not been adjusted to take account of war-time shortages or rationing, and the index therefore measures war-time price changes in relation to a normal (or pre-war) apportionment of household expenditure. (See § 2 (5) and § 9 (2) hereof.)

3. **Relative "Aggregate Expenditure" of Items and Groups.**—In the *base period* of the index (average of the years 1923 to 1927) the relative importance of each of the four main groups, expressed as a percentage of the weighted average "aggregate expenditure" in the Six Capital Cities (from which all relative index-numbers are derived) was—Food and groceries, 38.7 per cent.; house rent, 21.3 per cent.; clothing, 23.0 per cent.; and miscellaneous, 17.0 per cent., as shown in the third column of the following table. Although the "weights" of each item in the regimen are kept virtually constant, the relative "aggregate expenditure" of the various items and groups will, of course, vary from time to time as relative prices change and, in addition, the distribution of relative expenditure as between the groups and sections is varied from time to time for "relative weighting" purposes on the basis of the changing relativities of population and households as disclosed by successive Censuses. This, however, does not affect the level of the Index at the point of change, but alters the degree of variation registered by the various groups or sections of the Index.

The percentage distribution for Melbourne in the *base period* was practically identical with that of the Six Capital Cities as a whole, and has continued to be representative of the relative movement of prices in the capital cities up to the present time. For this and other reasons, therefore, the percentage distribution of the Melbourne "aggregate expenditures"

has been published in previous issues of this Report, and these figures for the December quarter, 1946, are shown in the second column of the table for comparison with those of the *base period* of 1923–27 :—

Group.	Section.	Percentage of Aggregate Expenditure.			
		1923–27. (Base). Six Capital Cities.		Dec. Qtr., 1946. Melbourne.	
I. Food and Groceries	A Groceries ..	17.44	38.66	11.38	32.49
	B Dairy Produce ..	10.28		9.12	
	C Meat	10.94		11.99	
II. Housing	D House Rent—(4 and 5 rooms) ..	21.26	21.26	10.44	19.44
III. Clothing	E Man	8.69	23.04	10.41	29.43
	F Woman	9.12		14.40	
	G Boy, 10½ years ..	2.89		2.10	
	H Girl, 7 years ..	1.36		1.67	
	J Boy, 3½ years ..	0.98		0.85	
IV. Miscellaneous ..	K Household Drapery	1.09	17.04	1.97	18.64
	L Household Utensils	0.49		0.66	
	M Fuel and Light ..	4.92		4.28	
	N Other Miscellaneous	10.54		11.73	
		100.00		100.00	

It should be noted, however, that percentage price variations are measured from the "aggregate expenditures" of the *base period* of the index, and the percentages shown in the foregoing table for the *base period* 1923–27, therefore, are the proportionate "weights" applicable to the various groups and sections in measuring such variations in the index as a whole calculated to *this base period*, and *not* the percentage "weights" of any other period, e.g., those shown for the December quarter, 1946—which would only become of significance in the measurement of variations if the latter quarter were adopted as a *new base* for the index.

4. **Base Periods of the Indexes.**—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "All Items" ("C" series) Index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a post-war base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923–27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted aggregate cost of the regimen in the Six Capital Cities during the period taken as base expressed as an index-number of 1,000.

Index-numbers on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows :—

(i) 1911 *Base.*—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) 1914 *Base.*—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—

* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report from Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics up to No. 155, June, 1938.

Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

The conversion of these index-numbers from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table:—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923–27.	1923–27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923–27.	1923–27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) ..	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.33530
All Items ("C" Series) ..	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the method above will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

5. **Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows:—

Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina, etc.	11	Kalg'lie, etc	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Townsville	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in the March Quarter of 1937.

The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual population at that date.

The new weights given above produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.

§ 7. Tabular Statements of Retail Price Index-Numbers.

1. **General.**—The results of inquiries into price movements are available in the following publications :—

(i) *Monthly.*—A mimeographed statement is published each month giving index-numbers for Food and Groceries. The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) *Quarterly.*—A mimeographed statement is issued about three weeks after the end of each quarter giving the " C " series index-numbers for that quarter and immediately preceding quarters in respect of each of the 30 cities and towns originally adopted and for certain other places, e.g., Canberra, for which a " C " series index is now compiled. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items comprising the Food and Groceries regimen, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. Comparative average rents of 4 and 5 roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) *Annual.*—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over the past five years, and the monthly and quarterly results for the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and groceries, and average house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published in the Labour Report.

2. **All Items (" C " Series) Index.**—On page 6 hereof is published a table of weighted averages for the six capital cities combined, of " C " series retail price index-numbers, together with index-numbers for the four main groups of items in the " C " Series Index for each year 1914–1946.

In the pages immediately following are published :—

(i) the " C " series index-number for the last quarter of each year 1939 to 1946 (page 18) and for the month of November, 1914–1920 (page 19), for each capital city and for the six capital cities combined, and showing also separate indexes for each of the four main groups of items ;

(ii) the " C " Series index numbers 1914, 1921, 1929, 1939 and 1941–1946 for each of the 30 towns, with the weighted averages for each State, and 30 towns and the six capital cities, together with index numbers for the same periods for three additional towns for which this index is tabulated (page 20) ;

(iii) the " C " series index numbers 1914, 1921, 1939 and 1943–1946 and for the six quarters ended 31st December, 1946, for each of the 30 towns with the weighted averages for each State, the six capital cities, and the 30 towns (page 21) ;

(iv) " Group " index-numbers for each of the four main Groups of items in the " C " series index for dates and places mentioned in (iii) above (pages 22 to 25).

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(*a*) : Capital Cities.

(Base of each Group: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27=1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (*b*)
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	940	942	859	888	920	941	927
" " 1940 ..	974	961	920	903	949	972	956
" " 1941 ..	969	949	920	915	982	986	954
" " 1942 ..	1,060	1,069	977	1,027	1,048	1,082	1,051
" " 1943 ..	1,015	1,037	950	985	1,045	1,058	1,015
" " 1944 ..	1,022	1,046	959	988	1,049	1,039	1,022
" " 1945 ..	1,029	1,055	963	1,001	1,051	1,062	1,030
" " 1946 ..	1,047	1,044	996	996	1,052	1,084	1,037
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(*c*)							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	1,040	960	855	891	882	930	969
" " 1940 ..	1,042	973	859	892	882	933	974
" " 1941 ..	1,044	975	860	893	884	933	976
" " 1942 ..	1,042	974	862	893	885	932	976
" " 1943 ..	1,042	974	862	893	885	931	975
" " 1944 ..	1,043	973	863	892	886	933	975
" " 1945 ..	1,043	973	863	892	886	934	975
" " 1946 ..	1,043	973	863	895	886	936	976
GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	977	947	855	887	907	935	941
" " 1940 ..	998	964	894	897	921	954	961
" " 1941 ..	996	957	895	904	942	963	960
" " 1942 ..	1,051	1,030	930	973	982	1,021	1,019
" " 1943 ..	1,023	1,010	914	947	980	1,006	997
" " 1944 ..	1,027	1,015	919	948	983	995	1,002
" " 1945 ..	1,032	1,021	922	957	984	1,010	1,007
" " 1946 ..	1,043	1,014	942	955	985	1,024	1,011
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	854	862	865	869	840	867	858
" " 1940 ..	1,046	1,042	1,027	1,041	1,010	1,038	1,040
" " 1941 ..	1,179	1,186	1,186	1,182	1,169	1,184	1,182
" " 1942 ..	1,382	1,423	1,355	1,357	1,355	1,384	1,388
" " 1943 ..	1,449	1,435	1,433	1,422	1,395	1,430	1,436
" " 1944 ..	1,441	1,464	1,430	1,416	1,412	1,424	1,442
" " 1945 ..	1,459	1,445	1,446	1,433	1,423	1,447	1,448
" " 1946 ..	1,555	1,551	1,552	1,529	1,548	1,558	1,550
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	983	960	1,027	957	945	967
" " 1940 ..	1,004	1,021	986	1,060	995	977	1,013
" " 1941 ..	1,072	1,083	1,043	1,156	1,058	1,030	1,080
" " 1942 ..	1,140	1,144	1,109	1,209	1,127	1,095	1,144
" " 1943 ..	1,179	1,157	1,140	1,212	1,140	1,109	1,168
" " 1944 ..	1,169	1,158	1,134	1,213	1,139	1,099	1,163
" " 1945 ..	1,163	1,158	1,133	1,213	1,139	1,099	1,161
" " 1946 ..	1,175	1,165	1,141	1,222	1,147	1,110	1,170
GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	932	874	906	899	919	926
" " 1940 ..	1,008	989	938	957	953	976	986
" " 1941 ..	1,048	1,028	985	1,010	1,012	1,023	1,029
" " 1942 ..	1,138	1,136	1,055	1,100	1,090	1,113	1,122
" " 1943 ..	1,143	1,128	1,068	1,099	1,100	1,117	1,123
" " 1944 ..	1,142	1,138	1,069	1,098	1,104	1,106	1,126
" " 1945 ..	1,147	1,137	1,074	1,106	1,107	1,120	1,129
" " 1946 ..	1,177	1,157	1,110	1,128	1,136	1,155	1,156

(*a*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9. (*b*) Weighted average. (*c*) See footnote (*b*) on page 9.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(*a*) : Capital Cities.

(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (*b*)
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
„ 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
„ 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
„ 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
„ 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
„ 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
„ 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(*c*)							
Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
„ 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
„ 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
„ 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
„ 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
„ 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
„ 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851
GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
„ 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
„ 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
„ 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
„ 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
„ 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
„ 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,083
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
„ 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
„ 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
„ 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
„ 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
„ 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
„ 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
„ 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
„ 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
„ 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	882
„ 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
„ 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
„ 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194
GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.							
Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
„ 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
„ 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
„ 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
„ 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
„ 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
„ 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166

(*a*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9. (*b*) Weighted average. See page 21 for corresponding figures for years 1921, 1939, 1943 to 1946. (*c*) See footnote (*b*) on page 9.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

State and Town.	Nov. 1914.	Year 1921.	Year 1929.	Year 1939.	Year 1941.	Year 1942.	Year 1943.	Year 1944.	Year 1945.	Year 1946.
NEW SOUTH WALES—										
Sydney	712	1,046	1,073	936	1,028	1,107	1,151	1,144	1,142	1,165
Newcastle	..	1,041	1,028	901	997	1,069	1,109	1,094	1,100	1,119
Broken Hill	..	975	1,018	955	1,049	1,132	1,172	1,179	1,192	1,216
Goulburn	..	1,033	1,108	916	1,005	1,087	1.125	1,118	1,114	1,134
Bathurst	..	947	979	883	974	1,050	1,091	1,088	1,091	1,116
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	1,042	1,067	933	1,026	1,104	1,147	1,140	1,139	1,162
VICTORIA—										
Melbourne	671	1,003	1,017	924	1,008	1,100	1,139	1,135	1,135	1,149
Ballarat	..	992	957	874	950	1,037	1,084	1,083	1,086	1,094
Bendigo	..	1,002	969	875	963	1,054	1,096	1,101	1,099	1,107
Geelong	..	1,019	980	911	984	1,065	1,110	1,112	1,113	1,124
Warrnambool	..	1,034	960	918	998	1,078	1,126	1,129	1,139	1,153
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	1,003	1,011	920	1,004	1,095	1,135	1,131	1,131	1,145
QUEENSLAND—										
Brisbane	611	923	923	870	963	1,033	1,072	1.071	1,072	1,093
Toowoomba	..	949	916	858	951	1,033	1,080	1,085	1,087	1,107
Rockhampton	..	972	904	867	959	1,032	1,073	1,074	1,079	1,096
Townsville	..	1,025*b*	939*b*	918	1,044	1,075	1,114	1,117	1,114	1,136
Bundaberg	..	994*c*	931*c*	847	938	1,015	1,057	1,057	1,054	1,074
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	941	922	871	964	1,035	1,075	1.075	1,075	1,097
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—										
Adelaide	699	989	1,037	906	988	1,075	1,102	1,098	1,102	1,120
Kadina, etc.	..	998	943	810	882	962	908	995	999	1,020
Port Pirie	..	1,025	980	896	976	1,057	1,087	1,081	1,085	1,106
Mount Gambier	..	1.029	963	872	946	1,024	1,061	1,064	1,070	1,093
Peterborough	..	948	1,043	897	974	1,053	1,087	1,087	1,093	1,108
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	992	1,030	902	983	1,069	1,097	1,093	1,098	1,116
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—										
Perth, etc.	707	1,008	1,026	901	993	1,061	1,104	1,105	1,107	1,127
Kalgoorlie, etc.	..	1,048	1,032	1,066	1,165	1,175	1,192	1,199	1,202	1,223
Northam	..	1,030	1,022	915	1,017	1,079	1,111	1,113	1,113	1,133
Bunbury	..	1,045	978	936	1,018	1,065	1,102	1,110	1,115	1,136
Geraldton	..	1,056	1,051	965	1,055	1,114	1,165	1,176	1,170	1,187
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	1,020	1,026	915	1,008	1,070	1,112	1,113	1,116	1,136
TASMANIA—										
Hobart	687	1,070	1,000	908	1,001	1,078	1,117	1,105	1,107	1,138
Launceston	..	1,067	967	888	974	1,040	1,078	1,067	1,072	1,099
Burnie	..	1,003	966	879	971	1,035	1,088	1,065	1,063	1,093
Devonport	..	904	948	861	951	1,012	1,058	1,040	1,045	1,079
Queenstown	..	1,031	972	903	987	1,045	1,096	1,102	1,110	1,139
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	1,057	986	898	989	1,060	1,101	1,089	1,092	1,121
THIRTY TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	1,013	1,026	917	1,006	1,087	1,127	1,122	1,123	1,142
SIX CAPITALS(*a*) ..	687	1,013	1,033	920	1,008	1,091	1,131	1,126	1,126	1,145
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	..	..	..	956	1,040	1,122	1,168	1,153	1,149	1,170
Warwick, Qld. ..	..	994	931	834	926	1,007	1.055	1,061	1,064	1,087
Port Augusta, S.A. ..	..	1,035	1,061	883	980	1,052	1,076	1,076	1,084	1,105

(*a*) Weighted average. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average Victoria
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 .	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
Year 1939 ..	936	901	955	916	883	933	924	874	875	911	918	920
,, 1943 ..	1,151	1,109	1,172	1,125	1,091	1,147	1,139	1,084	1,096	1,110	1,126	1,135
,, 1944 ..	1,144	1,094	1,179	1,118	1,088	1,140	1,135	1,083	1,101	1,112	1,129	1,131
,, 1945 ..	1,142	1,100	1,192	1,114	1,091	1,139	1,135	1,086	1,099	1,113	1,139	1,131
,, 1946 ..	1,165	1,119	1,216	1,134	1,116	1,162	1,149	1,094	1,107	1,124	1,153	1,145
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,138	1,093	1,184	1,110	1,086	1,135	1,132	1,086	1,099	1,114	1,135	1,129
,, June ,,	1,141	1,099	1,193	1,111	1,089	1,138	1,134	1,086	1,098	1,112	1,135	1,131
,, Sept. ,,	1,142	1,103	1,194	1,112	1,090	1,139	1,135	1,085	1,099	1,114	1,139	1,132
,, Dec. ,,	1,147	1,106	1,198	1,121	1,099	1,145	1,137	1,085	1,099	1,112	1,145	1,133
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,151	1,108	1,203	1,123	1,105	1,148	1,141	1,089	1,101	1,117	1,146	1,137
,, June ,,	1,165	1,117	1,218	1,133	1,116	1,161	1,150	1,094	1,105	1,126	1,154	1,146
,, Sept. ,,	1,167	1,119	1,218	1,134	1,120	1,163	1,149	1,095	1,107	1,121	1,152	1,145
,, Dec. ,,	1,177	1,131	1,223	1,145	1,122	1,174	1,157	1,096	1,114	1,132	1,159	1,153

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025	994	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
Year 1939 ..	870	858	867	918	847	871	906	810	896	872	897	902
,, 1943 ..	1,072	1,080	1,073	1,114	1,057	1,075	1,102	998	1,087	1,061	1,087	1,097
,, 1944 ..	1,071	1,085	1,074	1,117	1,057	1,075	1,098	995	1,081	1,064	1,087	1,093
,, 1945 ..	1,072	1,087	1,079	1,114	1,054	1,075	1,102	999	1,085	1,070	1,093	1,098
,, 1946 ..	1,093	1,107	1,096	1,136	1,074	1,097	1,120	1,020	1,106	1,093	1,108	1,116
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,071	1,086	1,077	1,117	1,056	1,075	1,098	993	1,080	1,067	1,089	1,094
,, June ,,	1,072	1,088	1,083	1,115	1,053	1,076	1,100	996	1,084	1,068	1,090	1,096
,, Sept. ,,	1,069	1,085	1,077	1,109	1,049	1,073	1,103	1,003	1,086	1,073	1,096	1,099
,, Dec. ,,	1,074	1,088	1,080	1,114	1,056	1,077	1,106	1,005	1,090	1,073	1,097	1,102
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,081	1,095	1,086	1,123	1,061	1,084	1,110	1,009	1,092	1,079	1,098	1,106
,, June ,,	1,090	1,101	1,092	1,129	1,070	1,093	1,121	1,017	1,110	1,095	1,109	1,116
,, Sept. ,,	1,092	1,106	1,093	1,135	1,073	1,095	1,121	1,023	1,107	1,095	1,108	1,117
,, Dec. ,,	1,110	1,125	1,111	1,156	1,090	1,114	1,128	1,031	1,115	1,103	1,118	1,124

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	687	..
,, 1921	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	1,057	1,013	1,013
Year 1939 ..	901	1,066	915	936	965	915	908	888	879	861	903	898	920	917
,, 1943 ..	1,104	1,192	1,111	1,102	1,165	1,112	1,117	1,078	1,088	1,058	1,096	1,101	1,131	1,127
,, 1944 ..	1,105	1,199	1,113	1,110	1,176	1,113	1,105	1,067	1,065	1,040	1,102	1,089	1,126	1,122
,, 1945 ..	1,107	1,202	1,113	1,115	1,170	1,116	1,107	1,072	1,063	1,045	1,110	1,092	1,126	1,123
,, 1946 ..	1,127	1,223	1,133	1,136	1,187	1,136	1,138	1,099	1,093	1,079	1,139	1,121	1,145	1,142
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,104	1,197	1,111	1,111	1,167	1,113	1,101	1,064	1,053	1,037	1,104	1,085	1,123	1,120
,, June ,,	1,108	1,204	1,115	1,117	1,171	1,117	1,099	1,067	1,055	1,038	1,106	1,085	1,125	1,122
,, Sept ,,	1,108	1,204	1,114	1,116	1,172	1,117	1,107	1,073	1,065	1,045	1,112	1,092	1,126	1,123
,, Dec. ,,	1,107	1,202	1,110	1,115	1,168	1,115	1,120	1,085	1,080	1,060	1,118	1,105	1,129	1,126
1946 Mar. Qtr	1,116	1,215	1,121	1,126	1,177	1,125	1,120	1,085	1,078	1,063	1,119	1,105	1,134	1,131
,, June ,,	1,127	1,224	1,135	1,136	1,189	1,135	1,132	1,096	1,091	1,077	1,134	1,117	1,145	1,142
,, Sept. ,,	1,128	1,223	1,134	1,137	1,188	1,137	1,143	1,102	1,098	1,086	1,151	1,126	1,146	1,143
,, Dec. ,,	1,136	1,231	1,141	1,145	1,195	1,145	1,155	1,114	1,103	1,091	1,153	1,137	1,156	1,153

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 19.) (b) Charters Towers. (c) Warwick.

Retail Price "Group" Index Numbers(*d*) : Food and Groceries—Group I.

(*Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities,* 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
,, 1943 ..	1,042	1,066	1,234	1,090	1,027	1,048	1,055	1,049	1,042	1,013	1,035	1,053
,, 1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,252	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
,, 1945 ..	1,035	1,048	1,278	1,073	1,036	1,041	1,057	1,045	1,046	1,006	1,060	1,055
,, 1946 ..	1,039	1,049	1,277	1,070	1,048	1,044	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,012	1,079	1,051
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,027	1,042	1,274	1,078	1,033	1,034	1,052	1,039	1,042	1,001	1,047	1,049
,, June ,,	1,040	1,053	1,284	1,074	1,040	1,046	1,059	1,045	1,044	1,007	1,052	1,056
,, Sept. ,,	1,042	1,055	1,281	1,072	1,039	1,048	1,063	1,052	1,054	1,009	1,064	1,061
,, Dec. ,,	1,029	1,041	1,271	1,066	1,031	1,035	1,055	1,045	1,045	1,005	1,077	1,053
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,035	1,044	1,277	1,066	1,041	1,040	1,059	1,052	1,051	1,013	1,080	1,057
,, June ,,	1,042	1,051	1,289	1,069	1,049	1,047	1,062	1,060	1,057	1,020	1,083	1,061
,, Sept ,,	1,032	1,044	1,275	1,065	1,047	1,038	1,042	1,045	1,048	1,004	1,077	1,041
,, Dec. ,,	1,047	1,057	1,265	1,080	1,056	1,052	1,044	1,045	1,044	1,009	1,074	1,043

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	955	895	949	981*b*	936*c*	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
,, 1943 ..	975	974	995	1,041	1,033	982	1,003	1,044	1,076	984	1,039	1,007
,, 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,019	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
,, 1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	1,006
,, 1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	1,011
1945 Mar. Qtr.	967	1,009	1,018	1,058	1,030	981	993	1,021	1,062	1,003	1,043	997
,, June ,,	969	1,016	1,024	1,063	1,032	984	1,003	1,027	1,076	1,015	1,054	1,007
,, Sept. ,,	965	1,007	1,015	1,049	1,023	979	1,011	1,047	1,083	1,026	1,064	1,015
,, Dec. ,,	963	1,003	1,006	1,050	1,016	976	1,001	1,041	1,074	1,013	1,055	1,006
1946 Mar. Qtr.	975	1,016	1,014	1,067	1,033	988	1,008	1,046	1,076	1,025	1,054	1,012
,, June ,,	982	1,013	1,012	1,062	1,037	993	1,017	1,053	1,091	1,037	1,064	1,021
,, Sept. ,,	969	1,010	1,007	1,063	1,030	982	1,003	1,049	1,077	1,025	1,055	1,007
,, Dec. ,,	996	1,034	1,031	1,091	1,055	1,009	996	1,048	1,072	1,020	1,050	1,002

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
,, 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108	996	1,077	1,011	950	954
Year 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931
,, 1943 ..	1,059	1,179	1,071	1,039	1,080	1,068	1,062	1,017	1,096	1,057	1,137	1,052	1,037	1,040
,, 1944 ..	1,056	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023	1,026	1,029
,, 1945 ..	1,060	1,191	1,069	1,045	1,084	1,070	1,043	999	1,024	1,026	1,153	1,032	1,034	1,037
,, 1946 ..	1,059	1,192	1,073	1,057	1,084	1,070	1,069	1,018	1,048	1,052	1,173	1,055	1,036	1,040
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,059	1,185	1,067	1,043	1,080	1,068	1,025	981	1,002	1,002	1,133	1,013	1,028	1,031
,, June ,,	1,064	1,196	1,074	1,051	1,089	1,074	1,032	990	1,011	1,015	1,142	1,021	1,037	1,040
,, Sept. ,,	1,067	1,199	1,077	1,051	1,090	1,076	1,054	1,009	1,035	1,039	1,165	1,043	1,040	1,043
,, Dec. ,,	1,051	1,182	1,059	1,033	1,075	1,061	1,062	1,015	1,047	1,049	1,173	1,050	1,030	1,033
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,061	1,194	1,072	1,058	1,084	1,071	1,057	1,011	1,037	1,042	1,164	1,045	1,036	1,039
,, June ,,	1,067	1,201	1,082	1,064	1,092	1,078	1,065	1,016	1,045	1,051	1,172	1,052	1,042	1,045
,, Sept. ,,	1,057	1,190	1,072	1,055	1,082	1,068	1,069	1,018	1,049	1,053	1,174	1,055	1,029	1,033
,, Dec. ,,	1,052	1,184	1,066	1,050	1,076	1,063	1,084	1,027	1,059	1,060	1,181	1,068	1,037	1,041

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (*b*) Charters Towers.
(*c*) Warwick. (*d*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(*d*) : Housing (4 and 5 Rooms)—Group II.

(*Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities,* 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
„ 1943 ..	1,042	902	753	882	844	1,023	974	709	742	889	934	956
„ 1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
„ 1945 ..	1,043	903	760	885	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
„ 1946 ..	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	713	743	887	934	955
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	973	709	744	887	934	955
„ June „	1,043	903	762	885	844	1,023	973	709	744	887	934	955
„ Sept. „	1,043	903	762	886	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
„ Dec. „	1,043	903	761	886	843	1,024	973	711	744	887	934	955
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	903	761	886	843	1,024	973	711	743	887	934	955
„ June, „	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	711	743	887	934	955
„ Sept. „	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	715	743	887	934	955
„ Dec. „	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	715	743	888	934	955

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	629	547	470	528*b*	535*c*	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Year 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	640	840	888	388	710	686	753	862
„ 1943 ..	862	859	768	865	668	850	893	383	713	715	755	866
„ 1944 ..	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	754	866
„ 1945 ..	863	861	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
„ 1946 ..	863	862	773	866	681	851	894	390	712	716	755	867
1945 Mar. Qtr.	863	860	767	865	672	850	892	386	713	715	755	866
„ June „	863	860	768	865	674	850	892	386	713	715	755	866
„ Sept. „	863	860	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
„ Dec. „	863	862	769	865	674	851	892	386	712	715	755	866
1946 Mar. Qtr	863	862	770	865	678	851	892	390	712	715	755	866
„ June „	863	862	772	865	682	851	893	390	712	715	755	867
„ Sept. „	863	862	772	866	682	851	894	390	712	715	755	867
„ Dec. „	863	862	779	866	682	852	895	390	712	718	755	868

Period	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	649	..
„ 1921 ..	754	578	616	649	779	709	870	676	294	150	495	729	877	823
Year 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	851	836	763	806	887	965	947
„ 1943 ..	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894	975	956
„ 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895	976	956
„ 1945 ..	886	1,037	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	851	770	804	896	975	956
„ 1946 ..	886	1,055	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	809	898	976	957
1945 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,036	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	849	770	804	895	975	956
„ June „	886	1,036	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	849	770	804	895	975	956
„ Sept. „	886	1,036	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	853	770	804	896	975	956
„ Dec. „	886	1,041	900	976	1,062	903	934	862	853	770	804	896	975	956
1946 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,053	900	979	1,062	904	936	864	853	770	804	898	976	957
„ June „	886	1,053	900	979	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	804	898	976	957
„ Sept. „	886	1,056	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	814	898	976	957
„ Dec. „	886	1,058	900	980	1,064	905	936	865	853	770	814	899	976	957

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick. (*d*) See footnotes (*a*) and (*b*) on page 9.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(*d*) : Clothing—Group III.

(Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,570	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1939 ..	843	823	850	861	840	842	832	851	841	846	842	833
„ 1943 ..	1,450	1,446	1,438	1,463	1,471	1,450	1,455	1,473	1,466	1,450	1,462	1,456
„ 1944 ..	1,440	1,407	1,430	1,458	1,450	1,438	1,446	1,471	1,490	1,477	1,472	1,450
„ 1945 ..	1,425	1,430	1,455	1,448	1,455	1,427	1,431	1,470	1,478	1,480	1,480	1,436
„ 1946 ..	1,516	1,510	1,548	1,538	1,545	1,517	1,502	1,497	1,510	1,519	1,515	1,503
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,420	1,405	1,440	1,428	1,438	1,420	1,427	1,482	1,486	1,491	1,484	1,433
„ June „	1,410	1,415	1,440	1,437	1,438	1,411	1,428	1,472	1,476	1,472	1,477	1,432
„ Sept. „	1,412	1,429	1,452	1,437	1,444	1,414	1,424	1,457	1,467	1,477	1,475	1,429
„ Dec. „	1,459	1,469	1,488	1,490	1,499	1,461	1,445	1,470	1,481	1,478	1,485	1,448
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,463	1,471	1,497	1,496	1,510	1,465	1,454	1,477	1,480	1,486	1,483	1,457
„ June „	1,510	1,499	1,540	1,536	1,544	1,511	1,486	1,486	1,493	1,513	1,515	1,488
„ Sept. „	1,537	1,518	1,558	1,548	1,568	1,536	1,515	1,508	1,514	1,518	1,513	1,515
„ Dec. „	1,555	1,550	1,595	1,571	1,559	1,556	1,551	1,517	1,553	1,560	1,548	1,550

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568*b*	1,519*c*	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238
Year 1939 ..	840	838	856	855	852	843	863	852	854	852	844	862
„ 1943 ..	1,420	1,426	1,445	1,460	1,435	1,425	1,409	1,388	1,409	1,424	1,413	1,408
„ 1944 ..	1,427	1,406	1,454	1,455	1,438	1,430	1,409	1,395	1,112	1,420	1,429	1,409
„ 1945 ..	1,431	1,405	1,454	1,437	1,424	1,431	1,413	1,405	1,410	1,416	1,419	1,413
„ 1946 ..	1,503	1,478	1,519	1,507	1,495	1,503	1,482	1,466	1,493	1,495	1,482	1,482
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,429	1,399	1,442	1,446	1,432	1,429	1,412	1,399	1,407	1,420	1,418	1,412
„ June „	1,427	1,400	1,456	1,428	1,409	1,427	1,402	1,401	1,401	1,407	1,408	1,403
„ Sept. „	1,421	1,401	1,446	1,428	1,407	1,422	1,404	1,400	1,400	1,409	1,417	1,404
„ Dec. „	1,446	1,418	1,471	1,447	1,446	1,446	1,433	1,421	1,433	1,429	1,434	1,432
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,457	1,431	1,481	1,457	1,453	1,457	1,441	1,426	1,440	1,441	1,444	1,440
„ June „	1,490	1,465	1,511	1,494	1,482	1,490	1,467	1,444	1,487	1,488	1,470	1,467
„ Sept. „	1,514	1,488	1,525	1,518	1,505	1,513	1,491	1,479	1,498	1,505	1,481	1,491
„ Dec. „	1,552	1,528	1,559	1,557	1,539	1,551	1,529	1,515	1,546	1,547	1,531	1,530

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..	754	..
„ 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525	1,405	1,504	1,513	1,246	1,290
Year 1939 ..	832	855	842	849	847	834	856	853	843	844	853	854	841	841
„ 1943 ..	1,396	1,400	1,390	1,374	1,396	1,396	1,427	1,404	1,409	1,416	1,394	1,418	1,440	1,440
„ 1944 ..	1,401	1,429	1,408	1,403	1,419	1,404	1,428	1,406	1,423	1,407	1,425	1,420	1,435	1,435
„ 1945 ..	1,410	1,436	1,407	1,413	1,412	1,412	1,420	1,414	1,426	1,425	1,430	1,419	1,425	1,427
„ 1946 ..	1,497	1,516	1,478	1,482	1,489	1,497	1,510	1,497	1,513	1,538	1,521	1,508	1,505	1,506
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,402	1,425	1,405	1,398	1,407	1,403	1,424	1,408	1,418	1,425	1,435	1,419	1,421	1,423
„ June „	1,409	1,437	1,409	1,414	1,409	1,411	1,405	1,403	1,412	1,410	1,431	1,406	1,416	1,418
„ Sept. „	1,407	1,434	1,402	1,408	1,410	1,409	1,402	1,400	1,414	1,407	1,419	1,403	1,415	1,418
„ Dec. „	1,423	1,448	1,413	1,431	1,420	1,425	1,447	1,444	1,460	1,456	1,433	1,446	1,448	1,450
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,447	1,477	1,427	1,438	1,445	1,448	1,454	1,448	1,469	1,481	1,454	1,454	1,456	1,458
„ June „	1,486	1,504	1,475	1,471	1,484	1,487	1,495	1,487	1,511	1,532	1,508	1,495	1,494	1,495
„ Sept. „	1,505	1,518	1,484	1,487	1,492	1,505	1,532	1,508	1,536	1,563	1,563	1,527	1,521	1,520
„ Dec. „	1,548	1,565	1,527	1,533	1,533	1,548	1,558	1,546	1,534	1,575	1,559	1,554	1,550	1,550

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c* Warwick. (*d*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers (*d*) : Miscellaneous—Group IV.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Year 1939 ..	940	901	1,048	908	888	938	977	990	1,004	980	951	978
,, 1943 ..	1,166	1,072	1,276	1,112	1,094	1,160	1,155	1,193	1,216	1,188	1,159	1,159
,, 1944 ..	1,171	1,079	1,287	1,108	1,096	1,165	1,158	1,198	1,221	1,190	1,167	1,162
,, 1945 ..	1,163	1,080	1,280	1,107	1,098	1,158	1,159	1,198	1,217	1,192	1,165	1,163
,, 1946 ..	1,170	1,083	1,296	1,111	1,101	1,165	1,164	1,197	1,217	1,193	1,164	1,168
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,163	1,081	1,267	1,105	1,097	1,157	1,160	1,201	1,217	1,192	1,167	1,164
,, June ,,	1,163	1,080	1,285	1,104	1,098	1,158	1,159	1,199	1,217	1,192	1,165	1,163
,, Sept. ,,	1,163	1,081	1,284	1,108	1,098	1,158	1,159	1,198	1,217	1,192	1,165	1,163
,, Dec. ,,	1,163	1,079	1,285	1,110	1,099	1,158	1,158	1,195	1,217	1,191	1,162	1,162
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,167	1,080	1,289	1,108	1,100	1,161	1,162	1,194	1,216	1,192	1,161	1,166
,, June ,,	1,171	1,085	1,295	1,112	1,100	1,166	1,165	1,197	1,216	1,192	1,163	1,168
,, Sept. ,,	1,168	1,082	1,297	1,111	1,100	1,163	1,165	1,199	1,217	1,194	1,166	1,168
,, Dec. ,,	1,175	1,086	1,301	1,112	1,103	1,170	1,165	1,197	1,218	1,194	1,166	1,169

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009*b*	988*c*	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036
Year 1939 ..	955	983	969	996	992	962	1,022	989	999	1,017	994	1,019
,, 1943 ..	1,129	1,167	1,163	1,180	1,159	1,138	1,211	1,229	1,207	1,229	1,224	1,211
,, 1944 ..	1,137	1,169	1,171	1,187	1,169	1,146	1,213	1,235	1,207	1,232	1,227	1,214
,, 1945 ..	1,133	1,166	1,169	1,178	1,167	1,142	1,213	1,237	1,209	1,233	1,226	1,214
,, 1946 ..	1,136	1,167	1,172	1,183	1,156	1,145	1,219	1,242	1,216	1,239	1,233	1,220
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,133	1,167	1,167	1,177	1,164	1,142	1,212	1,237	1,207	1,233	1,226	1,213
,, June ,,	1,133	1,164	1,169	1,179	1,167	1,142	1,213	1,237	1,210	1,233	1,226	1,214
,, Sept. ,,	1,134	1,165	1,169	1,177	1,167	1,142	1,212	1,236	1,209	1,233	1,225	1,213
,, Dec. ,,	1,133	1,166	1,171	1,177	1,168	1,142	1,213	1,237	1,209	1,233	1,226	1,214
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,133	1,164	1,175	1,178	1,153	1,142	1,214	1,236	1,210	1,233	1,227	1,215
,, June ,,	1,134	1,163	1,171	1,180	1,155	1,143	1,219	1,244	1,219	1,238	1,233	1,220
,, Sept. ,,	1,137	1,167	1,169	1,182	1,156	1,145	1,220	1,244	1,220	1,241	1,236	1,221
,, Dec. ,,	1,141	1,174	1,174	1,192	1,160	1,150	1,222	1,245	1,214	1,242	1,236	1,223

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	749	..
,, 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941	960	959	952	1,010	1,009
Year 1939 ..	954	974	948	912	1,034	956	938	947	874	882	881	934	962	962
,, 1943 ..	1,136	1,179	1,140	1,084	1,205	1,140	1,105	1,101	1,005	1,011	1,044	1,093	1,160	1,159
,, 1944 ..	1,144	1,189	1,143	1,100	1,216	1,147	1,100	1,097	997	1,002	1,052	1,089	1,165	1,164
,, 1945 ..	1,138	1,176	1,136	1,094	1,208	1,141	1,100	1,096	997	996	1,053	1,089	1,161	1,160
,, 1946 ..	1,143	1,173	1,153	1,098	1,212	1,146	1,104	1,103	1,004	999	1,058	1,094	1,167	1,166
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,137	1,177	1,137	1,094	1,208	1,141	1,101	1,095	995	998	1,051	1,089	1,161	1,160
,, June ,,	1,138	1,177	1,136	1,093	1,209	1,141	1,100	1,094	996	996	1,053	1,088	1,161	1,160
,, Sept. ,,	1,138	1,177	1,137	1,094	1,209	1,141	1,100	1,096	998	995	1,054	1,089	1,161	1,160
,, Dec. ,,	1,139	1,174	1,135	1,094	1,205	1,142	1,099	1,098	998	995	1,052	1,089	1,161	1,160
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,140	1,175	1,152	1,096	1,210	1,143	1,099	1,098	999	996	1,051	1,089	1,164	1,162
,, June ,,	1,141	1,173	1,152	1,097	1,210	1,144	1,101	1,100	1,000	997	1,055	1,091	1,167	1,166
,, Sept. ,,	1,144	1,172	1,153	1,098	1,212	1,147	1,106	1,106	1,004	1,002	1,061	1,096	1,167	1,165
,, Dec. ,,	1,147	1,170	1,155	1,100	1,214	1,149	1,110	1,106	1,011	1,002	1,064	1,099	1,170	1,169

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 19. (*b*) Charters Towers.
(*c*) Warwick. (*d*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9.

3. **"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers : Food, Groceries and Rent.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled for the year 1925, and retrospectively for several earlier years. It was designed to replace the "A" series index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index compiled in 1912. The first of the following tables covers only the Six Capital Cities and gives index-numbers for the two Groups of the regimen involved split up into their various Sections, while the two succeeding tables give for each of the 30 Towns, the weighted averages of each State, the Six Capital Cities and the 30 Towns :—The "B" Series as a whole (second table—including three additional towns not in the weighted averages), and the "B" Series split up into its two Groups (third table).

Retail Price Index-Numbers(*b*) : Capital Cities—"B" Series.

(Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1939.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
SECTION A.—GROCERIES.									
Sydney	510	574	627	1,115	994	1,016	965	965	969
Melbourne	461	521	562	1,070	957	967	924	926	929
Brisbane	547	614	607	1,105	944	989	934	933	935
Adelaide	510	541	598	1,076	939	979	939	941	944
Perth	572	720	628	1,103	966	1,007	963	964	966
Hobart	501	566	604	1,087	947	971	925	930	934
SIX CAPITALS (*a*) ..	499	564	599	1,093	969	992	946	946	950
SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.									
Sydney	551	574	656	1,080	851	947	960	958	956
Melbourne	571	567	635	1,087	885	971	970	966	965
Brisbane	495	581	588	983	793	902	932	932	930
Adelaide	548	651	705	1,018	800	888	895	895	893
Perth	709	733	735	1,152	870	976	982	983	981
Hobart	564	587	695	1,091	844	967	968	966	963
SIX CAPITALS (*a*) ..	563	591	654	1,072	853	947	956	954	952
SECTION C.—MEAT.									
Sydney	519	501	668	960	935	1,160	1,158	1,190	1,202
Melbourne	557	485	663	1,030	968	1,242	1,279	1,307	1,288
Brisbane	535	488	610	897	822	1,018	1,026	1,032	1,079
Adelaide	553	541	784	1,095	929	1,138	1,151	1,178	1,188
Perth	789	824	881	1,103	958	1,199	1,239	1,251	1,248
Hobart	668	638	780	1,244	961	1,265	1,233	1,257	1,338
SIX CAPITALS (*a*) ..	558	522	691	1,010	936	1,175	1,190	1,217	1,223
SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.									
Sydney	523	553	646	1,062	936	1,042	1,025	1,035	1,039
Melbourne	517	523	610	1,063	942	1,055	1,049	1,057	1,052
Brisbane	530	569	603	1,014	864	975	965	966	981
Adelaide	532	570	679	1,066	897	1,003	993	1,002	1,006
Perth	670	753	728	1,166	938	1,059	1,056	1,060	1,059
Hobart	565	592	678	1,133	923	1,062	1,035	1,043	1,069
SIX CAPITALS (*a*) ..	533	559	640	1,064	927	1,037	1,026	1,034	1,036
SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(*c*)									
Sydney	593	701	760	989	1,035	1,042	1,043	1,043	1,043
Melbourne	455	569	628	820	955	974	974	973	973
Brisbane	283	373	466	630	854	862	863	863	863
Adelaide	510	706	655	809	888	893	892	892	894
Perth	458	524	589	739	881	885	886	886	886
Hobart	405	452	518	881	925	931	932	933	936
SIX CAPITALS (*a*) ..	497	612	662	862	965	975	976	975	976
ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.									
Sydney	548	606	687	1,036	972	1,040	1,030	1,036	1,038
Melbourne	495	539	616	977	945	1,021	1,017	1,022	1,019
Brisbane	442	500	554	877	858	929	923	924	932
Adelaide	524	618	671	975	891	958	951	957	960
Perth	594	672	679	982	914	989	987	990	989
Hobart	508	542	621	1,044	922	1,009	992	998	1,014
SIX CAPITALS (*a*) ..	520	578	648	992	939	1,011	1,004	1,009	1,010

(*a*) Weighted average. (*b*) See footnote (*a*) on page 9. (*c*) See footnote (*b*) on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—"B" Series.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

State and Town.	Nov. 1914.	Nov. 1921.	1929.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
NEW SOUTH WALES—										
Sydney	680	977	1,115	972	992	1,039	1,040	1,030	1,036	1,038
Newcastle	..	944	1,068	934	959	1,005	1,000	987	989	990
Broken Hill	..	825	1,078	970	991	1,052	1,044	1,055	1,073	1,073
Goulburn	..	926	1,146	942	957	1,009	1,007	999	997	996
Bathurst	..	815	987	900	910	957	953	951	958	966
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	965	1,110	969	988	1,036	1,036	1,026	1,032	1,034
VICTORIA—										
Melbourne	613	895	1,036	945	953	1,014	1,021	1,017	1,022	1,019
Ballarat	..	769	914	849	841	894	908	907	912	917
Bendigo	..	780	962	851	868	920	923	923	926	928
Geelong	..	844	985	917	912	956	962	958	957	961
Warrnambool	..	855	940	940	941	984	993	995	1,008	1,020
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	876	1,026	938	946	1,005	1,012	1,009	1,013	1,011
QUEENSLAND—										
Brisbane	560	840	912	858	889	927	929	923	924	932
Toowoomba	..	771	855	830	857	913	927	945	949	955
Rockhampton	..	779	877	843	863	901	904	908	917	919
Townsville	..	820*b*	975*b*	920	933	974	970	975	979	989
Bundaberg	..	694*c*	867*c*	804	835	878	888	886	886	897
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	824	906	858	886	926	928	926	928	936
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—										
Adelaide	658	898	1,030	891	899	963	958	951	957	960
Kadina, etc.	..	811	891	743	738	789	784	776	779	790
Port Pirie	..	839	963	882	889	943	932	923	931	933
Mount Gambier	..	770	866	838	832	879	877	884	895	903
Peterborough	..	844	1,042	890	893	936	926	922	935	936
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	885	1,020	885	892	955	950	944	949	952
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—										
Perth, etc.	689	916	1,038	914	941	971	989	987	990	989
Kalgoorlie, etc. ..	..	928	1,010	1,178	1,211	1,160	1,122	1,121	1,128	1,136
Northam	..	898	1,072	936	980	1,005	1,001	999	1,001	1,003
Bunbury	..	907	996	979	996	1,011	1,010	1,010	1,015	1,024
Geraldton	..	942	1,090	990	1,024	1,048	1,069	1,079	1,072	1,073
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	918	1,036	936	964	988	1,001	1,000	1,002	1,003
TASMANIA—										
Hobart	630	971	992	922	953	1,000	1,009	992	998	1,014
Launceston	..	858	937	887	913	948	953	936	943	956
Burnie	..	819	972	898	937	973	998	958	954	969
Devonport	..	606	930	865	898	928	942	920	924	939
Queenstown	..	871	920	933	947	970	1,005	1,004	1,014	1,028
FIVE TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	911	970	908	937	978	988	970	977	992
THIRTY TOWNS(*a*) ..	..	907	1,044	935	952	1,001	1,005	998	1,003	1,005
SIX CAPITALS(*a*)	644	924	1,054	939	956	1,007	1,011	1,004	1,009	1,010
Canberra, A.C.T.	..	..	..	1,026	1,028	1,078	1,073	1,058	1,059	1,062
Warwick, Qld.	..	794	867	783	817	856	872	886	891	904
Port Augusta, S.A. ..	..	861	1,047	864	896	932	914	914	925	929

(*a*) Weighted Average. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series).

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1945 ..	1,035	1,048	1,278	1,073	1,036	1,041	1,057	1,045	1,046	1,006	1,060	1,055
1946 ..	1,039	1,049	1,277	1,070	1,048	1,044	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,012	1,079	1,051
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,027	1,042	1,274	1,078	1,033	1,034	1,052	1,039	1,042	1,001	1,047	1,049
June ,,	1,040	1,053	1,284	1,074	1,040	1,046	1,059	1,045	1,044	1,007	1,052	1,056
Sept. ,,	1,042	1,055	1,281	1,072	1,039	1,048	1,063	1,052	1,054	1,009	1,064	1,061
Dec. ,,	1,029	1,041	1,271	1,066	1,031	1,035	1,055	1,045	1,045	1,005	1,077	1,053
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,035	1,044	1,277	1,066	1,041	1,040	1,059	1,052	1,051	1,013	1,080	1,057
June ,,	1,042	1,051	1,289	1,069	1,049	1,047	1,062	1,060	1,057	1,020	1,083	1,061
Sept. ,,	1,032	1,044	1,275	1,065	1,047	1,038	1,042	1,045	1,048	1,004	1,077	1,041
Dec. ,,	1,047	1,057	1,265	1,080	1,056	1,052	1,044	1,045	1,044	1,009	1,074	1,043
1945.												
January ..	1,023	1,038	1,273	1,076	1,030	1,030	1,051	1,038	1,041	999	1,047	1,049
February ..	1,023	1,040	1,278	1,077	1,032	1,030	1,048	1,036	1,039	998	1,044	1,045
March ..	1,035	1,047	1,271	1,079	1,036	1,041	1,055	1,044	1,044	1,005	1,049	1,053
April ..	1,039	1,051	1,283	1,074	1,040	1,045	1,054	1,044	1,044	1,005	1,050	1,052
May ..	1,039	1,053	1,285	1,077	1,039	1,045	1,060	1,043	1,044	1,006	1,051	1,057
June ..	1,042	1,055	1,284	1,072	1,041	1,048	1,062	1,048	1,045	1,010	1,054	1,059
July ..	1,044	1,057	1,283	1,072	1,041	1,050	1,064	1,053	1,060	1,011	1,054	1,062
August ..	1,044	1,057	1,284	1,075	1,042	1,050	1,065	1,055	1,054	1,011	1,059	1,062
September ..	1,038	1,052	1,276	1,068	1,035	1,044	1,061	1,048	1,048	1,006	1,078	1,058
October ..	1,030	1,044	1,270	1,066	1,032	1,036	1,059	1,046	1,045	1,004	1,078	1,057
November ..	1,029	1,042	1,272	1,066	1,031	1,035	1,053	1,044	1,044	1,005	1,077	1,051
December ..	1,027	1,038	1,270	1,065	1,030	1,033	1,053	1,044	1,045	1,006	1,076	1,051
1946.												
January ..	1,030	1,040	1,269	1,062	1,033	1,035	1,055	1,046	1,046	1,008	1,077	1,053
February ..	1,034	1,043	1,276	1,066	1,040	1,040	1,059	1,050	1,052	1,012	1,080	1,057
March ..	1,040	1,049	1,287	1,069	1,049	1,046	1,063	1,060	1,055	1,020	1,083	1,061
April ..	1,041	1,051	1,288	1,069	1,049	1,046	1,064	1,060	1,057	1,020	1,083	1,063
May ..	1,042	1,051	1,289	1,069	1,049	1,048	1,061	1,060	1,057	1,020	1,084	1,060
June ..	1,042	1,050	1,289	1,069	1,049	1,048	1,061	1,060	1,056	1,021	1,083	1,060
July ..	1,038	1,050	1,290	1,068	1,050	1,044	1,047	1,058	1,056	1,014	1,084	1,047
August ..	1,031	1,043	1,270	1,063	1,045	1,037	1,039	1,039	1,046	999	1,074	1,038
September ..	1,028	1,039	1,264	1,064	1,045	1,033	1,040	1,037	1,042	999	1,074	1,039
October ..	1,029	1,040	1,265	1,063	1,048	1,034	1,039	1,036	1,042	999	1,073	1,038
November ..	1,056	1,063	1,266	1,087	1,057	1,061	1,046	1,048	1,045	1,014	1,074	1,045
December ..	1,055	1,068	1,265	1,090	1,062	1,061	1,048	1,050	1,046	1,014	1,075	1,047
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS). (b)												
1945 ..	1,043	903	760	885	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
1946 ..	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	713	743	887	934	955
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	973	709	744	887	934	955
June ,,	1,043	903	762	885	844	1,023	973	709	744	887	934	955
Sept. ,,	1,043	903	762	886	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
Dec. ,,	1,043	903	761	886	843	1,024	973	711	744	887	934	955
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,043	903	761	886	843	1,024	973	711	743	887	934	955
June ,,	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	711	743	887	934	955
Sept. ,,	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	715	743	887	934	955
Dec. ,,	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	715	743	888	934	955
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.												
1945 ..	1,036	989	1,073	997	958	1,032	1,022	912	926	957	1,008	1,013
1946 ..	1,038	990	1,073	996	966	1,034	1,019	917	928	961	1,020	1,011
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,031	985	1,068	999	956	1,027	1,019	908	923	954	1,000	1,010
June ,,	1,039	992	1,078	998	961	1,035	1,023	912	925	958	1,003	1,014
Sept. ,,	1,040	993	1,076	997	960	1,036	1,026	916	931	959	1,011	1,017
Dec. ,,	1,032	985	1,069	993	955	1,028	1,021	912	925	957	1,019	1,012
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,035	987	1,073	993	961	1,031	1,023	917	928	962	1,021	1,015
June ,,	1,040	991	1,080	995	967	1,036	1,025	922	932	966	1,023	1,017
Sept. ,,	1,034	987	1,072	993	965	1,030	1,013	913	927	956	1,019	1,005
Dec. ,,	1,043	995	1,066	1,002	970	1,039	1,014	914	924	960	1,017	1,007

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9. (b) See footnote (b) on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series)—*continued.*

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	1,006
1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	1,011
1945 Mar. Qtr.	967	1,009	1,018	1,058	1,030	981	993	1,021	1,062	1,003	1,043	997
June ,,	969	1,016	1,024	1,063	1,032	984	1,003	1,027	1,076	1,015	1,054	1,007
Sept. ,,	965	1,007	1,015	1,049	1,023	979	1,011	1,047	1,083	1,026	1,064	1,015
Dec. ,,	963	1,003	1,006	1,050	1,016	976	1,001	1,041	1,074	1,013	1,055	1,006
1946 Mar. Qtr.	975	1,016	1,014	1,067	1,033	988	1,008	1,046	1,076	1,025	1,054	1,012
June ,,	982	1,013	1,012	1,062	1,037	993	1,017	1,053	1,091	1,037	1,064	1,021
Sept. ,,	969	1,010	1,007	1,063	1,030	982	1,003	1,049	1,077	1,025	1,055	1,007
Dec. ,,	996	1,034	1,031	1,091	1,055	1,009	996	1,048	1,072	1,020	1,050	1,002
1945.												
January ..	963	996	1,002	1,047	1,031	976	993	1,021	1,061	1,005	1,043	997
February ..	964	1,015	1,026	1,063	1,030	981	993	1,021	1,062	997	1,042	996
March ..	973	1,016	1,025	1,065	1,029	988	992	1,021	1,062	1,006	1,043	996
April ..	973	1,018	1,021	1,064	1,030	987	1,001	1,022	1,074	1,011	1,051	1,005
May ..	967	1,016	1,026	1,063	1,033	983	1,001	1,026	1,073	1,011	1,051	1,005
June ..	967	1,015	1,026	1,062	1,033	983	1,007	1,034	1,080	1,023	1,059	1,011
July ..	967	1,011	1,022	1,057	1,031	982	1,013	1,049	1,087	1,032	1,066	1,018
August ..	967	1,008	1,016	1,047	1,022	980	1,013	1,047	1,084	1,025	1,066	1,017
September ..	961	1,002	1,006	1,044	1,015	974	1,007	1,044	1,079	1,020	1,060	1,011
October ..	960	1,001	1,006	1,041	1,015	973	1,002	1,040	1,076	1,013	1,058	1,007
November ..	960	999	1,005	1,048	1,012	973	1,003	1,042	1,074	1,013	1,056	1,007
December ..	969	1,009	1,007	1,062	1,021	982	999	1,040	1,072	1,014	1,052	1,004
1946.												
January ..	972	1,012	1,009	1,066	1,030	985	1,001	1,042	1,073	1,017	1,051	1,005
February ..	977	1,018	1,015	1,067	1,031	990	1,007	1,045	1,073	1,026	1,052	1,011
March ..	977	1,019	1,017	1,069	1,038	990	1,016	1,051	1,083	1,031	1,058	1,020
April ..	977	1,019	1,017	1,069	1,041	990	1,017	1,053	1,089	1,036	1,064	1,021
May ..	984	1,010	1,010	1,059	1,037	994	1,016	1,053	1,091	1,037	1,064	1,021
June ..	984	1,010	1,010	1,059	1,033	994	1,017	1,053	1,092	1,037	1,064	1,021
July ..	980	1,010	1,010	1,059	1,033	991	1,013	1,051	1,090	1,035	1,063	1,017
August ..	964	1,012	1,007	1,066	1,029	979	998	1,045	1,070	1,019	1,050	1,003
September ..	962	1,009	1,004	1,064	1,027	977	997	1,050	1,071	1,020	1,051	1,002
October ..	977	1,010	1,007	1,064	1,033	989	996	1,051	1,072	1,020	1,050	1,002
November ..	1,005	1,046	1,043	1,104	1,064	1,019	997	1,048	1,072	1,020	1,050	1,002
December ..	1,006	1,047	1,043	1,106	1,068	1,020	996	1,046	1,073	1,020	1,051	1,001
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(b)												
1945 ..	863	861	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
1946 ..	863	862	773	866	681	851	894	390	712	716	755	867
1945 Mar. Qtr.	863	860	767	865	672	850	892	386	713	715	755	866
June ,,	863	860	768	865	674	850	892	386	713	715	755	866
Sept. ,,	863	860	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
Dec. ,,	863	862	769	865	674	851	892	386	712	715	755	866
1946 Mar. Qtr.	863	862	770	865	678	851	892	390	712	715	755	866
June ,,	863	862	772	865	682	851	893	390	712	715	755	867
Sept. ,,	863	862	772	866	682	851	894	390	712	715	755	867
Dec. ,,	863	862	779	866	682	852	895	390	712	718	755	868
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.												
1945 ..	924	949	917	979	886	928	957	779	931	895	935	949
1946 ..	932	955	919	989	897	936	960	790	933	903	936	952
1945 Mar. Qtr.	924	949	918	980	888	928	951	771	923	888	928	943
June ,,	926	953	922	983	890	930	958	775	932	896	935	950
Sept. ,,	923	947	916	975	884	927	962	787	937	902	941	955
Dec. ,,	922	946	911	976	880	925	957	783	930	895	936	949
1946 Mar. Qtr.	929	954	916	986	892	933	960	788	932	901	935	953
June ,,	933	952	916	983	896	935	966	792	940	909	941	958
Sept. ,,	925	950	913	984	892	929	958	789	932	901	935	950
Dec. ,,	942	965	930	1,001	907	945	955	789	929	900	933	947

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9. (b) See footnote (b) on page 9.

Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series)—*continued.*

(Base of each Section (a): Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, 6 Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.		
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
1945 ..	1,060	1,191	1,069	1,045	1,084	1,070	1,043	999	1,024	1,026	1,153	1,032	1,034	1,037
1946 ..	1,059	1,192	1,073	1,057	1,084	1 070	1,069	1,018	1,048	1,052	1,173	1,055	1,036	1,040
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,059	1,185	1,067	1,043	1,080	1,068	1,025	981	1,002	1,002	1,133	1,013	1,028	1,031
June ,,	1,064	1,196	1,074	1,051	1,089	1,074	1,032	990	1,011	1,015	1,142	1,021	1,037	1,040
Sept. ,,	1,067	1,199	1,077	1,051	1,090	1,076	1,054	1,009	1,035	1,039	1,165	1,043	1,040	1,043
Dec. ,,	1,051	1,182	1,059	1,033	1,075	1,061	1,062	1,015	1,047	1,049	1,173	1,050	1,030	1,033
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,061	1,194	1,072	1,058	1,084	1,071	1,057	1,011	1,037	1,042	1,164	1,045	1,036	1,039
June ,,	1,067	1,201	1,082	1,064	1,092	1,078	1,065	1,016	1,045	1,051	1,172	1,052	1,042	1,045
Sept. ,,	1,057	1,190	1,072	1,055	1,082	1,068	1,069	1,018	1,049	1,053	1,174	1,055	1,029	1,033
Dec. ,,	1,052	1,184	1,066	1,050	1,076	1,063	1,084	1,027	1,059	1,060	1,181	1,068	1,037	1,041
1945.														
January ..	1,051	1,173	1,060	1,033	1,073	1,060	1,025	980	1,002	1,002	1,133	1,013	1,025	1,028
February ..	1,062	1,190	1,071	1,046	1,084	1,072	1,025	981	1,002	1,002	1,134	1,013	1,025	1,028
March ..	1,062	1,191	1,071	1,049	1,084	1,072	1,024	981	1,003	1,001	1,133	1,013	1,033	1,036
April ..	1,062	1,193	1,071	1,049	1,086	1,072	1,024	982	1,005	1,005	1,133	1,013	1,035	1,038
May ..	1,062	1,192	1,071	1,049	1,086	1,072	1,024	983	1,004	1,008	1,133	1,013	1,036	1,039
June ..	1,069	1,204	1,080	1,055	1,095	1,079	1,048	1,005	1,024	1,033	1,159	1,037	1,039	1,042
July ..	1,069	1,203	1,080	1,057	1,094	1,079	1,048	1,004	1,028	1,032	1,159	1,037	1,042	1,044
August ..	1,069	1,201	1,079	1,051	1,091	1,078	1,048	1,005	1,026	1,030	1,158	1,037	1,042	1,045
September ..	1,062	1,193	1,071	1,046	1,086	1,072	1,067	1,017	1,051	1,054	1,178	1,054	1,037	1,040
October ..	1,054	1,185	1,061	1,035	1,079	1,064	1,067	1,019	1,052	1,054	1,177	1,055	1,032	1,035
November ..	1,050	1,182	1,058	1,033	1,073	1,059	1,068	1,020	1,053	1,055	1,178	1,056	1,030	1,033
December ..	1,050	1,180	1,058	1,032	1,073	1,059	1,052	1,005	1,036	1,038	1,163	1,040	1,029	1,032
1946.														
January ..	1,052	1,182	1,061	1,049	1,075	1,062	1,054	1,008	1,036	1,038	1,163	1,042	1,031	1,034
February ..	1,065	1,199	1,078	1,062	1,088	1,075	1,058	1,012	1,037	1,044	1,165	1,046	1,036	1,039
March ..	1,067	1,201	1,078	1,062	1,088	1,077	1,058	1,012	1,037	1,044	1,165	1,046	1,041	1,044
April ..	1,067	1,201	1,082	1,064	1,091	1,077	1,065	1,016	1,042	1,052	1,173	1,052	1,042	1,045
May ..	1,067	1,201	1,082	1,064	1,092	1,078	1,065	1,016	1,046	1,050	1,172	1,052	1,042	1,045
June ..	1,067	1,201	1,083	1,065	1,092	1,078	1,065	1,017	1,046	1,050	1,172	1,052	1,042	1,045
July ..	1,067	1,201	1,083	1,064	1,092	1,078	1,065	1,017	1,046	1,050	1,172	1,052	1,035	1,039
August ..	1,052	1,186	1,066	1,050	1,077	1,063	1,061	1,012	1,042	1,046	1,169	1,048	1,026	1,030
September ..	1,053	1,184	1,067	1,051	1,076	1,063	1,081	1,025	1,058	1,062	1,181	1,066	1,025	1,029
October ..	1,053	1,183	1,067	1,050	1,076	1,063	1,083	1,027	1,058	1,059	1,180	1,067	1,026	1,030
November ..	1,052	1,183	1,066	1,050	1,076	1,062	1,083	1,027	1,058	1,059	1,180	1,067	1,042	1,046
December ..	1,052	1,185	1,066	1,050	1,076	1,063	1,087	1,026	1,060	1,063	1,183	1,069	1,043	1,047
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).(b)														
1945 ..	886	1,037	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	851	770	804	896	975	956
1946 ..	886	1,055	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	809	898	976	957
1945 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,036	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	849	770	804	895	975	956
June ,,	886	1,036	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	849	770	804	895	975	956
Sept. ,,	886	1,036	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	853	770	804	896	975	956
Dec. ,,	886	1,041	900	976	1,062	903	934	862	853	770	804	896	975	956
1946 Mar. Qtr.	886	1,053	900	979	1,062	904	936	864	853	770	804	898	976	957
June ,,	886	1,053	900	979	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	804	898	976	957
Sept. ,,	886	1,056	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	814	898	976	957
Dec. ,,	886	1,058	900	980	1,064	905	936	865	853	770	814	899	976	957
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.														
1945 ..	990	1,128	1,001	1,015	1,072	1,002	998	943	954	924	1,014	977	1,009	1,003
1946 ..	989	1,136	1,003	1,024	1,073	1,003	1,014	956	969	939	1,028	992	1,010	1,005
1945 Mar. Qtr.	989	1,124	999	1,014	1,070	1,001	986	932	940	909	1,002	965	1,005	999
June ,,	992	1,131	1,003	1,019	1,076	1,005	991	938	946	917	1,007	970	1,011	1,005
Sept. ,,	994	1,133	1,005	1,019	1,076	1,006	1,005	949	962	931	1,022	983	1,013	1,007
Dec. ,,	984	1,124	995	1,009	1,067	997	1,010	953	969	938	1,026	988	1,007	1,001
1946 Mar. Qtr.	990	1,136	1,003	1,024	1,073	1,004	1,007	951	963	933	1,021	985	1,010	1,005
June ,,	994	1,140	1,009	1,029	1,078	1,007	1,012	954	967	939	1,026	990	1,014	1,008
Sept. ,,	988	1,135	1,002	1,023	1,072	1,002	1,014	956	970	940	1,031	992	1,006	1,001
Dec. ,,	985	1,132	999	1,020	1,069	999	1,024	961	976	945	1,035	999	1,011	1,006

(a) See footnote (a) on page 9. (b) See footnote (b) on page 9.

§ 8. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding sections, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November each year until 1942 related, therefore, to 200 towns. After 1942, collection of returns of these prices was suspended as a war-time economy. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pp. 26 to 33), and details respecting succeeding investigations are incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

In issues of these publications prior to Labour Report No. 28 of 1937, information was given regarding movements in the rents of 4-roomed and 5-roomed houses. While the index-numbers were useful in a general way as a measure of changes in rents in any one town from time to time, there has been an increasing tendency to regard them as an adequate measure of the relative absolute levels of rents in different towns at any given date. In order to prevent such a misuse of the figures, and because of increasing doubts as to the ability of the Bureau, except at prohibitive cost, to ensure that returns of rents from all these towns shall be based on continuously representative samples, it was decided to limit the information collected to the prices of food and groceries. Should any industrial tribunal desire further information on house rentals in any of these towns, the Bureau will be prepared to consider requests for special investigations by its field officers.

§ 9. Changes in the Regimen of Indexes.

1. **Revisions to 1936.**—Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications. These are briefly as follows :—

(i) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen for food and groceries, originally introduced in 1912, was based upon the relative consumption of the years 1906 to 1910, and the first revision was made in the September quarter of 1932 and was based on the years 1927 to 1929. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below.

(ii) *Housing.*—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally the rentals of all houses from " 3 rooms and under " to " 8 rooms and over " were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the " A " series index (food and rent of all houses) from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the " All Items " index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the " C " series index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the " B " series index.

Since the December quarter of 1936, following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians, the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in certain towns have been collected and tabulated on a somewhat different basis from that previously used. For convenience this is known as the "Census" basis. The returns in the twelve more important cities and towns show the rents of individual houses, on the basis of which variations from a pre-determined standard are measured. This standard, the change in which has affected the index-numbers only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height, was determined by means of a special investigation of the 1933 Census data relating to rentals of all 4 and 5-roomed wood and brick houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary-earners. This method not being generally applicable to the circumstances of small country towns, on account of the greater diversity of average "quality" of houses, the level of rents in these towns has continued to be determined from a sample of houses selected by house-agents in accordance with definite standards laid down. The variations in rentals from this standard, however, are measured in the same manner as described above for the twelve more important cities and towns.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous.*—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in the March quarter of 1935. Details of the original regimen were never published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below. Some minor alterations have since been made in the regimen.

(iv) *Revision of* 1936.—The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27.

This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen were made with a view to improving the index-numbers as measures of price variations. They comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use; the adjustment of the mass-unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits; and the re-adjustment of the population weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in all places, and expert field officers were appointed to personally collect prices to the standard qualities laid down. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (see paragraph (ii) above)

(v) *Method of Effecting Changes.*—Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (see Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paragraphs 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price-level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

The method of effecting this is shortly as follows:—Up to the June quarter, 1942, all such changes were made by equating the new aggregate of the section embodying the changes to the former aggregate. This course was adopted when items were added to or omitted from the regimen, and when a change was made in the standard of any item. From the September quarter, 1942, however, all changes of standard were effected by an appropriate adjustment of the " mass unit " or " weight " so as to preserve the percentage weight which the item carried in the aggregate from time to time, and wherever possible the " weight " of any item dropped from the regimen was transferred to an article of a similar nature which would serve as a more appropriate medium for the measurement of the variations of the article dropped than the remaining items of the section—the " mass units " of which under the former procedure in effect were proportionately increased to carry the aggregate of the item dropped, or reduced to admit the new item added. See also par. 3 on pages 14 and 15.

While this involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the group index-numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, the following considerations should be kept in mind :—

Food and Groceries.—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to the June quarter of 1936. From and including the September quarter of 1936 the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

Housing.—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of " All Houses ", and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to the June quarter of 1936. In the September quarter, 1936, a change was made in the weighting system which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the rent figures for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, thereafter made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other

* The tabulation of the " A " Series Index for which these rents were used was discontinued after the issue for June quarter, 1938.

towns. In the December quarter of 1936 the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with average rents of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter.

Clothing and Miscellaneous.—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including the September quarter of 1936 the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

2. **The Regimen under War Conditions.**—Between the comprehensive revision of 1936 and the outbreak of war in 1939 changes in conditions did not require any appreciable revision of the regimen or mass-units of items therein. The adjustments made in 1936 had brought the basis of the index "up-to-date" in the sense that it conformed reasonably closely to normal pre-war usage. Although the effects of the war produced some variations from normal consumption in 1940 and 1941, it was not until 1942 (as explained in Section 2 (5) of this Chapter) that fundamental changes began to occur. As there explained, the years 1942, 1943 and 1944 produced temporary changes of a far-reaching character which, if permanent and stable, must have necessitated fundamental re-adjustments in the regimen and mass-units of the index. But the resultant changes in the index would have been so extensive as virtually to create a new index which would not have been continuously comparable with the "C" series index either as compiled pre-war or as it is likely to be compiled in post-war years. Consideration of the matter led to the conclusions—

(i) that it was desirable to continue the "C" series index substantially on its pre-war regimen in order to ensure continuity of comparison of price movements on a clearly defined basis;

(ii) that it was impossible to reconstruct the "C" series index to take account of recurrent temporary departures from normal consumption.

§ 10. Retail Price Index-Numbers and Wage Variations.

Two distinct procedures are adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in fixing and varying basic or living wages as follows:—

(i) the Court periodically *fixes* the amount of wage in the light of evidence submitted by parties appearing before it. Such evidence usually covers a wide range of facts as to economic conditions;

(ii) having determined the amount of basic wage the Court further determines whether or not it shall be subject to automatic adjustment for changes in price level and, if so, by what method such *variation* shall be made. This again is decided in the light of evidence and of representations by the parties concerned.

The All Items ("C" series) retail price index is used by the Court to derive the "Court" series of retail price index-numbers upon which the basic or "needs" portion of the wages prescribed in awards is *varied* automatically for changes in price levels quarterly, half-yearly or yearly. These are commonly referred to as "cost of living adjustments" although in fact they relate only to that part of the *change in cost of living* which is due to variations in prices. The Court itself determines from time to time at public sittings the amount of the basic wage, having regard to evidence submitted in relation to other aspects of "cost of living" and other relevant considerations. In fixing the amount of the basic wage the Court does not have regard to either the regimen used in compiling the retail price index or the cost of such regimen. The regimen of the index would not be suited to such a purpose.

The considerations upon which the basic wage is fixed are set out in successive judgments of the Court and briefly summarised in Chapter III. (Section 3) of this Report. On this matter, reference should be made to the Basic Wage Judgments of the Court, particularly those of 1934, 1937 and 1941,* and to the general statement of principles set out in the judgment on the "Munition Workers' Case" of 1943.† Certain State industrial tribunals use the index-numbers directly for automatic or quasi-automatic adjustment of the rates of wages determined by them as tribunals, while some State tribunals have regard to the index-numbers and other factors in considering what "cost of living" variations they should make in rates of wages.

The use of index-numbers by industrial authorities for purposes of adjusting rates of wages for changes in price level is a practice of long standing, dating in the case of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, for example, back to the year 1913. The tribunals form their own judgment as to relevance of the index-numbers to their purposes, and periodically hear the representatives of employers and employees on the issues involved, including questions as to whether the index is satisfactory for the purposes to which it is applied by the tribunal. In such proceedings the Statistician or his officers are called at times as witnesses on questions of fact and technical matters relating to the index-numbers.

The automatic adjustments in wages prescribed in awards of the Court on the basis of retail price index-numbers are sometimes referred to as "cost of living" adjustments and the index is popularly referred to as a "cost of living index". This at times creates misconceptions as to the nature of the retail price index since the term "cost of living" connotes not only change in cost of living due to changes in prices, but also changes in cost of living due to changes in standard of living. Beyond that, use of the term "cost of living" index sometimes creates the erroneous impression that the retail price index purports to embrace all that should be included in a desirable standard of living. As pointed out in the opening sections of this chapter, the "C" Series Index is a retail price index of specific meaning.

The following is a brief statement of the index-numbers used by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court from time to time:—

(i) "*A*" *Series.*—The "A" series of indexes cover the items food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000).

* 33 C.A.R., p. 144; 37 C.A.R., p. 583; 44 C.A.R., p. 41.
† 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

This series was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to the June quarter of 1938, after which it was discontinued.

The Commonwealth Arbitration Court adopted this series in 1913 to determine the *relative* basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the "Harvester" Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the "normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." For this purpose the base index number (1,000) of the series was selected by the Court as equivalent to a basic wage of 48s. per week. This series had very little application after May, 1933, because of the adoption by the Court successively of the "D" series at that date, the "C" series in May, 1934, and the "Court" series in July, 1937.

(ii) "*B*" *Series.*—The "B" series covers the items food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000) and is actually the food and rent constituent of the "C" series described in (iii). This series was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the "A" Series, but was never used in connexion with the adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 26 to 30 of this Report.

(iii) "*C*" *Series.*—The All Items ("C" Series) Index covers food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing (man, wife and three children); household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000). The regimen is published in full on pages 10 to 12 of this Report.

This series was constructed as the result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920, and the regimen adopted was substantially that of the "Indicator" Lists of the Commission with periodical adjustments as explained in this chapter. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March quarter, 1925 to date.

The series was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court in May, 1933, when that Court introduced the "D" series of indexes explained on the following page. In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted as from 1st May, 1934, the "C" Series Index as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment, for which purpose the Court equated a "needs" basic wage of 81s. per week to the base index-number (1923–27 = 1,000) of the series. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Commonwealth Court adopted this index as the basis of the "Court" Index (First Series) for the adjustment of the "needs" portion of the Court's new basic wage (see (iv)).

(iv) *The "Court" Series.*—The "Court" series of index-numbers was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. It is based on the Commonwealth Statistician's "C" Series Index, and from 1st December, 1946, is obtained as follows:—The Court in its "Interim" basic wage judgment of 13th December, 1946, decided to equate to the base index-number of the "C" series index (1923–27 = 1,000) the "Court" Index (Second Series) index-number 87.0, and as this was the weekly rate in shillings allotted in 1946 by the Court to this base index-number as its "needs" basic wage (see (vi), p. 85), each "C" series index-point is thus equal to .087s. By the simple process of multiplying any "C" series index-number by this factor, therefore, the result to the first decimal place (*as it stands*) is the corresponding "Court" (Second Series) index-number, which also expresses in shillings the amount of the "needs" basic wage as fixed by the Court for that index-number—with the proviso that any decimal point of .5 or more shall be regarded as the next higher number of shillings. To this wage is then added the relevant "constant" and other loadings granted by the Court to make up the total basic wage for the awards concerned. In the normal course the Court hears and decides issues raised as to the suitability of the index-numbers for the purposes to which it applies them. The "Court" Second (Series) entirely supersedes the "C" Series Index for all wage adjustments decreed by the Commonwealth Court. A set of index-numbers under this series is reproduced in Appendix III. of this Report, while a "Ready Reckoner" for the weekly "needs" basic wage equivalents of "C" series and "Court" (Second Series) index-numbers is shown at the end of the following section (see page 38.)

A full account is given on page 36 of Labour Report No. 34 of the "Court" Index (First Series) on the Base 1923–27 = 81.0, which operated from 1st July, 1937. For the purposes of obtaining continuous "price" indexes, however, these may be converted to Second Series (Base = 87.0) by multiplying them by the factor 1.0741, and the Second Series may be converted to First Series by multiplying them by the factor 0.931.

(v) *"D" Series.*—The "D" series is a combination of the "A" and "C" series, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court for the adjustment of wages of those employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. reduction in real wages determined by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933.

The series has for its base the "A" series index for each town for the December quarter of 1929, which is varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "C" series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the corresponding "C" index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment is to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "D"

index for each town from the December quarter of 1929 fluctuated in the same way as the "C" index for the same town, the relationship of different towns was that of the "A" series for the December quarter of 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "A" series and the "C" series index for each town since that quarter.

This series was superseded as from 1st May, 1934, by the judgment of the Court referred to under "C" series. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(vi) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 10. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and also for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel. Both these adjustments were later effected by means of the "C" Series Index, but the provisions for the adjustment of pensions were repealed as from 6th April, 1944.

(vii) *The "200 Towns" Series.*—This series was tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936, it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation was limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by Industrial Tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series has been compiled for the month of November since 1913. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. The tabulation of this index was discontinued after November, 1942 as a war-time economy. A reference to these index-numbers will be found on page 31.

§ 11. Scales used for Automatic Wage Adjustment.

The following table shows the automatic scales of quarterly, half-yearly or yearly adjustment adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in its Basic Wage Judgment of 13th December, 1946, for the "needs" portion of its basic wage. The amount of wage shown constitutes the basic wage payable (exclusive of certain "loadings") and designated by the Court the "needs" basic wage. Of the various "loadings" legally regarded as part of a total basic wage* the only one having general application is that popularly referred to as the "prosperity" loading awarded by the Court in 1937. This is a "constant" (non-adjustable) loading, but at different rates according to locality and industry, and is fully described in Section 3 of Chapter III. of this Report. The method followed by the Court was to fix an amount of basic wage after hearing evidence and argument by representatives of employers and employees covering a wide range of relevant factors (primarily relating to "capacity of industry" to pay and general economic conditions), and then to determine an automatic adjustment scale.

* See second paragraph, p. 81.

Automatic Scales for Quarterly, Half-yearly or Yearly Adjustment of "Needs" Basic Wage.†

(As adopted by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, 13th December, 1946 and operative from 1st December, 1946.)

*Basis—

(*a*) "C" Series.—Index-number 1,000 (Base 1923–27) = 87s. per week (1s. = 11.494253), or £227 per annum (£1 =4.405287)

(*b*) "Court" Index (Second Series).—"C" Series index-number 1,000 (Base 1923–27) ="Court" Index (Second Series) index-number 87.0. (One "C" Series "point" = .087)

Index-number Divisions.		Wage Per week ("Needs").			Index-number Divisions.		Wage Per week ("Needs").		
"C" Series Index.	"Court" Index (Second Series).	£	*s.*	*d.*	"C" Series Index.	"Court" Index (Second Series).	£	*s.*	*d.*
719 –729 ..	62.5 –63.4	3	3	0	1029–1040 ..	89.5 –90.4	4	10	0
730– 741 ..	63.5– 64.4	3	4	0	1041–1051 ..	90.5– 91.4	4	11	0
742– 752 ..	64.5– 65.4	3	5	0	1052–1063 ..	91.5– 92.4	4	12	0
753– 764 ..	65.5– 66.4	3	6	0	1064–1074 ..	92.5– 93.4	4	13	0
765– 775 ..	66.5– 67.4	3	7	0	1075–1086 ..	93.5– 94.4	4	14	0
776– 787 ..	67.5– 68.4	3	8	0	1087–1097 ..	94.5– 95.4	4	15	0
788– 798 ..	68.5– 69.4	3	9	0	1098–1109 ..	95.5– 96.4	4	16	0
799– 810 ..	69.5– 70.4	3	10	0	1110–1120 ..	96.5– 97.4	4	17	0
811– 821 ..	70.5– 71.4	3	11	0	1121–1132 ..	97.5– 98.4	4	18	0
822– 833 ..	71.5– 72.4	3	12	0	1133–1143 ..	98.5– 99.4	4	19	0
834– 844 ..	72.5– 73.4	3	13	0	1144–1155 ..	99.5–100.4	5	0	0
845– 856 ..	73.5– 74.4	3	14	0	1156–1166 ..	100.5–101.4	5	1	0
857– 867 ..	74.5– 75.4	3	15	0	1167–1178 ..	101.5–102.4	5	2	0
868– 879 ..	75.5– 76.4	3	16	0	1179–1189 ..	102.5–103.4	5	3	0
880– 890 ..	76.5– 77.4	3	17	0	1190–1201 ..	103.5–104.4	5	4	0
891– 902 ..	77.5– 78.4	3	18	0	1202–1212 ..	104.5–105.4	5	5	0
903– 913 ..	78.5– 79.4	3	19	0	1213–1224 ..	105.5–106.4	5	6	0
914– 925 ..	79.5– 80.4	4	0	0	1225–1235 ..	106.5–107.4	5	7	0
926– 936 ..	80.5– 81.4	4	1	0	1236–1247 ..	107.5–108.4	5	8	0
937– 948 ..	81.5– 82.4	4	2	0	1248–1258 ..	108.5–109.4	5	9	0
949– 959 ..	82.5– 83.4	4	3	0	1259–1270 ..	109.5–110.4	5	10	0
960– 971 ..	83.5– 84.4	4	4	0	1271–1281 ..	110.5–111.4	5	11	0
972– 982 ..	84.5– 85.4	4	5	0	1282–1293 ..	111.5–112.4	5	12	0
983– 994 ..	85.5– 86.4	4	6	0	1294–1304 ..	112.5–113.4	5	13	0
995–1005 ..	86.5– 87.4	4	7	0	1305–1316 ..	113.5–114.4	5	14	0
1006–1017 ..	87.5– 88.4	4	8	0	1317–1327 ..	114.5–115.4	5	15	0
1018–1028 ..	88.5– 89.4	4	9	0	1328–1339 ..	115.5–116.4	5	16	0

*Formulae for Construction of Tables—

(*a*) "*C*" *Series.*—Let N = number of shillings in wage per week. Then 11.494253 × (N − .5) + 1 gives the first, and 11.494253 × (N + .5) gives the second of the pair of numbers in the index-number division for N shillings. Decimal fractions in result to be disregarded.

(*b*) "*Court*" *Series.*—Each "C" series index-number point = .087, and each of the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "C" series in above table when multiplied by this factor gives to the first decimal place (as it stands) the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "Court" Index (Second Series)—from which the second of the pair becomes obvious. (NOTE.—All "Court" series index-numbers must be derived through their corresponding "C" series index-numbers.)

† For "Court" (First Series) Equivalents (Base = 81.0) *see* Labour Report No. 34, p. 38.

Both the amount of wage and the adjustment scale operate only until the Court otherwise determines, and representatives of employers and employees have the right to approach the Court for variation of the wage or for variation of the adjustment scale. Only the "needs" portion of the total basic wage is adjustable.

§ 12. International Comparisons: Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The following tables give index-numbers of retail prices for (i) cost of living, including articles other than food, and (ii) foodstuffs only. For the countries included, the prices for the period January–June, 1939, are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations, show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country, and are obviously not comparable horizontally.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in various Countries.

(*Base : January-June* 1939 = 100.)

(i) COST OF LIVING.*

	Australia.	Brazil.	Canada.	Czecho-Slovakia.	Denmark.	Egypt.	Finland.	India.	Ireland.
Town or Number of Localities.	30	Rio de Janeiro.	69	Prague.	Whole.	Cairo.	36	Bom-bay.	120
1937	95	94	101	89	98	100	97	102	98
1938	98	98	102	94	100	101	99	102	100
1939	100	101	101	103	102	101	101	102	103
1940	104	105	105	126	127	111	121	108	118
1941	110	117	111	147	148	137	143	120	131
1942	119	131	116	160	153	182	168	151	145
1943	123	145	118	158	155	240	190	223	163
1944	123	160	118	159	157	272	201	229	171
1945	123	186	119	168	159	286	282	227	171
1946	125	209	123	305	158	282	451	250	168
1946—									
March Qtr. ..	124	201	119	305	158	279	426	237	170
June ,, ..	125	203	121	306	157	278	441	243	166
Sept. ,, ..	125	215	125	303	157	282	467	259	166
Dec. ,, ..	126	218	126	304	159	286	468	262	169
1947—									
March Qtr. ..	127	..	127	308	159	..	493	257	171

	Newfound-land.	New Zealand.	Norway.	Peru.	Southern Rhodesia.(b)	Sweden.	Switzer-land.	Union of South Africa.	United Kingdom.	United States.	Uruguay.
Town or Number of Localities.	St. Johns.	4–25	31	Lima.	6	60	34	9	24–509	32–51	Monte-video.
1937	..	95	97	102	..	96	100	96	100	104	96
1938	100	98	100	103	..	99	100	100	102	102	96
1939	104	102	102	102	..	100	101	100	103	100	101
1940	..	106	119	109	..	114	110	103	120	101	105
1941	126	110	139	118	106	129	127	108	130	106	105
1942	140	114	147	132	113	140	142	117	130	118	108
1943	149	(a) 100	151	146	119	142	149	124	129	125	113
1944	161	100	153	166	124	143	152	129	131	127	117
1945	160	100	156	185	127	144	153	132	132	130	134
1946	163	101	160	202	131	144	152	134	132	141	148
1946—											
March Qtr. ..	162	101	158	193	131	143	151	133	132	131	142
June ,, ..	163	101	159	199	131	144	151	135	132	133	146
Sept. ,, ..	164	101	161	205	130	144	152	133	133	145	150
Dec. ,, ..	164	101	161	213	133	146	155	135	132	153	152
1947—											
March Qtr. ..	167	101	160	226	134	151	155	137	133	155	..

* The index-numbers in the above table are based on the cost of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items.

(*a*) New War-time index Base—December, 1942 = 100. (*b*) Base—August, 1939 = 100.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries—*continued.*

(*Base: January-June* 1939 = 100.)

(ii) PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS.

	Australia.	Brazil.	Canada.	Czecho-Slovakia.	Denmark.	Egypt.	Finland.	France.	India.
Town or Number of Localities.	30	Rio de Janeiro.	69	Prague.	Whole.	Cairo.	36	Paris.	Bombay.
1937	91	100	105	91	96	99	98	81	103
1938	95	100	105	94	100	103	99	93	102
1939	100	102	102	104	102	101	103	101	103
1940	101	108	107	125	124	111	126	120	113
1941	102	116	118	138	151	138	149	139	127
1942	111	131	129	142	156	179	174	162	163
1943	111	152	133	140	155	235	194	209	228
1944	110	175	133	142	156	271	197	257	238
1945	111	209	135	146	157	281	307	351	245
1946	111	240	142	312	157	267	483	602	287
1946—									
March Qtr. ..	111	226	135	318	156	266	465	448	262
June ,, ..	112	232	140	316	156	260	481	498	276
Sept. ,, ..	110	247	146	309	156	269	494	659	303
Dec. ,, ..	112	255	149	303	159	274	491	802	307
1947—									
March Qtr. ..	115	..	149	308	161	..	555	806	295

	Ireland.	Mexico.	Norway.	Peru.	Southern Rhodesia.(a)	Sweden.	Switzer-land.	Union of South Africa.	United Kingdom.	United States.	Uruguay.
Town or Number of Localities.	120	Mexico City.	31	Lima.	6	60	34	9	24–509	32–51	Montevideo.
1937	98	87	97	110	..	94	100	95	102	111	98
1938	100	100	101	108	..	98	100	100	104	103	94
1939	103	100	103	101	..	101	102	99	104	101	100
1940	115	98	123	111	..	116	113	102	121	102	106
1941	127	100	147	126	116	131	135	110	124	112	105
1942	141	114	154	141	116	142	154	121	119	131	109
1943	156	146	155	156	120	141	163	131	123	146	116
1944	165	189	156	178	123	140	166	137	124	144	120
1945	167	204	158	199	127	139	166	140	125	147	144
1946	166	264	158	215	132	140	162	144	125	169	161
1946—											
March Qtr. ..	168	240	158	209	133	138	161	143	125	148	151
June ,, ..	162	254	158	210	133	140	161	147	125	152	157
Sept. ,, ..	165	270	159	215	129	140	161	142	125	180	166
Dec. ,, ..	169	290	158	225	134	142	166	144	124	195	169
1947—											
March Qtr. ..	171	298	157	241	138	143	166	148	124	196	..

(*a*) Base August, 1939 = 100.

CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index.

1. **General.**—The data on which this chapter is based relate almost entirely to wholesale prices in Melbourne.

The index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912, and has been continued on the same lines since that year. The items included in the (old) Melbourne wholesale price index comprise chiefly basic materials which in the form of raw material, food, or as a source of power, enter into production for home consumption. The purpose of the index, therefore, is to measure the changes in the prices of these particular materials rather than the changes in prices generally. As Australia does not, to any extent, manufacture from imported raw materials commodities for export, the local consumption appears to give the most appropriate weighting. Any lack of uniformity in the variations of the index-numbers for these wholesale prices and for retail prices would indicate broadly changes in the relation of manufacturing and distributing charges to the cost of basic materials.

The scope of this wholesale price index can best be understood by an examination of the list of commodities included which is given on page 43. This list is, to a large extent, comparable with that used in the compilation of the *Economist* and *Statist* index-numbers for Great Britain, but differs largely from that used for the wholesale price index-numbers of the United States (Bureau of Labour) or Canada (Department of Labour).

2. **The Grouping of the Commodities.**—The commodities are divided into eight groups, as set out on page 43. The descriptions of the groups are given in the following tables with the proportional cost of each group for the year 1946. These proportions cannot be used with any degree of accuracy to combine " group " index-numbers owing to the possible wide differences in the proportions compared with those for the *base period*. See paragraph following table on page 15.

Groups of Commodities.

Group.	Description.	Percentage of Aggregate Cost (1946).
I.	" Metals and Coal "	14
II.	" Wool, Cotton ", also jute, leather, &c. ..	16
III.	" Agricultural Produce "	26
IV.	" Dairy Produce "	8
V.	" Groceries "	14
VI.	" Meat "	12
VII.	" Building materials " (mostly timber) ..	9
VIII.	" Chemicals " (excluding fertilizers) ..	1
		100

It will be noticed that the group " Chemicals " is practically negligible.

The index relates chiefly to basic materials, but a certain proportion of Australian manufacturing costs enters into all groups. The amount is small in Meat (VI.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Wool, Cotton (II.), and greater in others, but the difference is not sufficient to justify any inference as to different changes of the price-level for manufactured goods and farm products. The number and weight of manufactured commodities included are too small to warrant deductions of this nature from any possible grouping.

Many of the commodities included are affected by the tariff. Wool, Cotton (II.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Meat (VI.), are little affected, and Dairy Produce (IV.) not greatly, but in the other groups the tariff is a dominating influence.

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index: Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units".

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP I. (Metals and Coal).			
Iron—			
Pig ..	Mixed Nos.	Ton	6½
Rod and Bar	Stafford	,,	3½
Angle ..	,,	,,	3½
Plate ..	,,	,,	3
Hoop ..	,,	,,	½
Galvanized ..	26 gauge	,,	5
Fencing Wire ..	No. 8	Ton	6
Tinned Plates ..	I.C. Coke	Box	60
Zinc, sheet ..	..	Ton	1
Lead, sheet ..	..	,,	¾
,, pipes ..	..	,,	¾
Copper, sheet ..	..	lb.	2,000
Quicksilver ..	..	,,	12
Coal	Newcastle, on wharf	Ton	600
GROUP II. (Wool, Cotton, also Jute, Leather, &c.)			
Branbags ..	..	Doz.	110
Cornsacks ..	..	,,	250
Woolpacks ..	..	Each	200
Leather—			
Chrome Box Hide	..	ft.	1,200
Rough Tanned —Split	..	lb.	600
Sole Leather— Factory Sides	..	,,	600
Cotton ..	Raw ..	,,	24,000
Wool ..	Greasy ..	,,	12,200
Twine ..	Reaper and Binder	,,	150
Tallow ..	Mutton Prime	Ton	1¾
GROUP III. (Agricultural Produce).			
Wheat ..	..	Bus.	500
Flour ..	..	Ton	48
Bran	..	,,	14
Pollard ..	..	,,	14
Oats	Milling ..	Bus.	1,200
Oatmeal ..	Colonial	Ton	1½
Barley ..	English	Bus.	150
,, ..	Cape ..	,,	100
Maize	..	,,	1,000
Hay	Best Mngr.	Ton	135
Chaff ..	Prime ..	,,	135
Straw ..	Victorian	,,	25
Peas	..	Bus.	55
Potatoes ..	..	Ton	40
Malt	Victorian	Bus.	140
Onions ..	..	Ton	3
GROUP IV. (Dairy Produce).			
Ham	..	lb.	800
Bacon ..	..	,,	3,200
Cheese ..	..	,,	1,500
Butter ..	Best Fresh	,,	9,500
Lard	Bulk ..	,,	200
Eggs	Ordinary	Doz.	1,800
Honey ..	..	lb.	600
Beeswax ..	..	,,	40
Condensed Milk	Bacchus Marsh	Doz. lb.	160

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP V. (Groceries).			
Currants ..	..	lb.	1,400
Raisins ..	Sultanas	,,	1,400
Herrings ..	1-lb. fresh	Doz. 1-lb. tins	50
Salmon ..	1-lb. tall Alaska	,,	50
Sardines ..	Halves	Doz. halves	100
Tea	..	lb.	3,000
Coffee ..	Plantation	,,	200
Cocoa ..	McKenzie's	,,	100
Sugar ..	No. 1A	Ton	22
Macaroni ..	..	lb.	200
Tapioca ..	..	cwt.	7
Rice ..	..	Ton	2
Salt	Australian fine	,,	7
Salt	Rock ..	,,	1
Mustard ..	Coleman's	Doz. 1-lb. tins	6
Starch ..	Coleman's White	lb	100
Blue	Keen's	,,	50
Matches ..	Australian Safety	Gross	90
Candles ..	Rangoon	lb.	1,600
Tobacco ..	..	,,	1,300
Kerosene ..	..	Gall.	1,700
GROUP VI. (Meat).			
Beef ..	Average quality	100 lb.	390
Mutton ..	,,	lb.	33,000
Lamb ..	,,	,,	5,600
Veal ..	,,	,,	2,000
Pork ..	,,	,,	3,700
GROUP VII. (Building Materials).			
Timber—	Flooring—		
	6 x 1½	100 ft. lin.	30
	6 x ¾	,,	30
	6 x ¾	,,	30
	6 x ½	,,	30
	Weather-boards	,,	200
	Oregon	1,000 ft. sup.	2
	Shelving	,,	10
Cement ..	Portland	Cask	30
White Lead ..	..	Ton	¾
Slates ..	Welsh 20 x 10	1,000	½
GROUP VIII. (Chemicals).			
Cream of Tartar	In kegs	lb.	400
Bi-Carbonate of Soda	..	Ton	½
Saltpetre ..	Refined	,,	1–20
Sulphur ..	..	,,	½
Caustic Soda ..	..	cwt.	¼
Alum ..	Lump ..	Ton	¼
Potassium Cyanide	..	lb.	570

3. **Index-Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table :—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1946.

(*Base of each Group : Year* 1911 = 1,000.)

Year	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1902 ..	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	1,051
1903 ..	923	834	1,209	1,059	936	1,443	875	921	1,049
1904 ..	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	890
1905 ..	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	801	859	910
1906 ..	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	948
1907 ..	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	1,021
1908 ..	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	1,115
1909 ..	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	993
1910 ..	1,004	1,052	969	1,100	999	1,008	996	898	1,003
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,088
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,662
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,125	2,363	1,985	1,651	1,516	2,348	2,851	2,898	2,055
1920 ..	2,298	2,624	2,439	2,209	1,918	3,279	3,226	2,825	2,480
1921 ..	2,173	1,362	1,767	2,000	1,976	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,942	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,965	1,758
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,837	1,746	2,579	2,025	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,815	1,806	1,885
1925 ..	1,852	1,967	1,797	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,731	1,931	1,665	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,624	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,556	1,792	1,853	1,690	2,246	1,754	1,942	1,803
1930 ..	1,866	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,025	1,875	1,982	1,598
1931 ..	1,826	1,039	1,121	1,399	1,794	1,508	2,025	2,166	1,428
1932 ..	1,736	1,000	1,230	1,303	1,767	1,348	2,043	2,127	1,411
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,195	1,714	1,487	2,061	2,106	1,409
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,018	1,471
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	1,469
1936 ..	1,566	1,331	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	1,543
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	1,656
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,789	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,059	1,662
1939 ..	1,758	1,101	1,820	1,557	1,752	1,710	2,220	2,075	1,665
1940 ..	1,854	1,362	1,568	1,567	1,784	1,882	2,890	2,298	1,713
1941 ..	1,960	1,402	1,721	1,554	1,884	1,776	3,138	2,527	1,796
1942 ..	2,146	1,507	1,900	1,665	1,938	2,312	3,409	2,437	1,977
1943 ..	2,272	1,945	1,964	1,716	1,939	2,366	3,764	2,442	2,117
1944 ..	2,278	1,967	2,052	1,721	1,949	2,470	3,768	2,442	2,159
1945 ..	2,270	1,960	2,259	1,726	1,967	2,560	3,770	2,527	2,228
1946 ..	2,262	2,062	1,950	1,722	1,977	2,589	3,772	2,614	2,163

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

4. **Variations since 1914.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915 to 1946, are shown in the following table, taking July, 1914, as base (= 1,000) for each group :—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

(*Base of each Group : July, 1914 = 1,000.*)

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
„ 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
„ 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
„ 1918 ..	2,197	2,324	1,351	1,210	1,378	1,469	2,448	3,085	1,695
„ 1919 ..	1,930	2,169	1,858	1,373	1,469	1,448	2,602	2,827	1,801
„ 1920 ..	2,091	2,430	2,228	1,840	1,860	2,022	2,944	2,764	2,178
„ 1921 ..	1,974	1,250	1,653	1,663	1,916	1,331	2,495	2,246	1,668
„ 1922 ..	1,763	1,543	1,523	1,370	1,811	1,102	1,830	1,917	1,541
„ 1923 ..	1,658	1,972	1,664	1,527	1,693	1,590	1,848	1,885	1,704
„ 1924 ..	1,667	2,220	1,541	1,376	1,668	1,371	1,656	1,761	1,653
„ 1925 ..	1,682	1,806	1,681	1,360	1,670	1,364	1,562	1,746	1,617
„ 1926 ..	1,760	1,453	1,873	1,483	1,677	1,191	1,519	1,771	1,606
„ 1927 ..	1,782	1,515	1,709	1,516	1,671	1,302	1,482	1,820	1,593
„ 1928 ..	1,737	1,635	1,661	1,456	1,654	1,242	1,590	1,876	1,571
„ 1929 ..	1,737	1,428	1,677	1,540	1,638	1,385	1,601	1,895	1,581
„ 1930 ..	1,695	1,035	1,389	1,353	1,614	1,249	1,712	1,933	1,399
„ 1931 ..	1,659	954	1,049	1,163	1,738	930	1,849	2,112	1,252
„ 1932 ..	1,577	918	1,152	1,083	1,712	831	1,865	2,074	1,237
„ 1933 ..	1,556	1,026	1,100	994	1,661	917	1,882	2,054	1,235
„ 1934 ..	1,508	1,158	1,205	1,059	1,682	950	1,839	1,968	1,290
„ 1935 ..	1,456	1,116	1,258	1,100	1,677	931	1,792	1,946	1,288
„ 1936 ..	1,422	1,222	1,385	1,123	1,678	1,038	1,798	1,948	1,353
„ 1937 ..	1,609	1,291	1,502	1,206	1,696	1,035	2,219	1,957	1,452
„ 1938 ..	1,586	965	1,674	1,287	1,693	1,154	2,043	2,008	1,457
„ 1939 ..	1,597	1,011	1,704	1,295	1,698	1,054	2,026	2,024	1,460
„ 1940 ..	1,684	1,250	1,467	1,303	1,728	1,161	3,638	2,242	1,502
„ 1941 ..	1,780	1,287	1,611	1,292	1,825	1,124	2,864	2,465	1,574
„ 1942 ..	1,949	1,384	1,778	1,384	1,878	1,426	3,111	2,377	1,733
„ 1943 ..	2,064	1,786	1,839	1,427	1,879	1,459	3,436	2,382	1,856
„ 1944 ..	2,069	1,806	1,920	1,430	1,888	1,523	3,439	2,382	1,893
„ 1945 ..	2,062	1,799	2,118	1,435	1,907	1,579	3,441	2,465	1,953
„ 1946 ..	2,055	1,893	1,826	1,432	1,915	1,597	3,444	2,549	1,896

§ 2.—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.

1. **General.**—As mentioned above, the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index was first computed in 1912. Neither the component items nor the weighting have been varied. Consequently the index is a measure of changes in wholesale price levels based on usages which have altered substantially since the period on which the weighting was determined. As such it is useful as an indication of long-term trends over the past 85 years which it covers, on the assumption that the relative importance of component items remained constant. But it no longer serves as a measure of price variations from month to month or from year to year of commodities weighted in accordance with present day consumption. Reference to the description of the index in § 1 above will indicate that animal fodders preponderate in the "Agricultural Produce" group, while "Building Materials" include little besides imported timber. In other groups, some principal items have increased in consumption while others have decreased. It was resolved, therefore, at the Conference of Statisticians at Brisbane in 1930 that the time had come to revise and extend the items included in order to bring the index into line with changed conditions. An investigation to that end was commenced, and in the course of the past few years, many new price-series have been collected on a monthly basis back to January, 1928. Some of these have been incorporated in a new index of the prices of basic materials and foodstuffs, preliminary index-numbers of which are

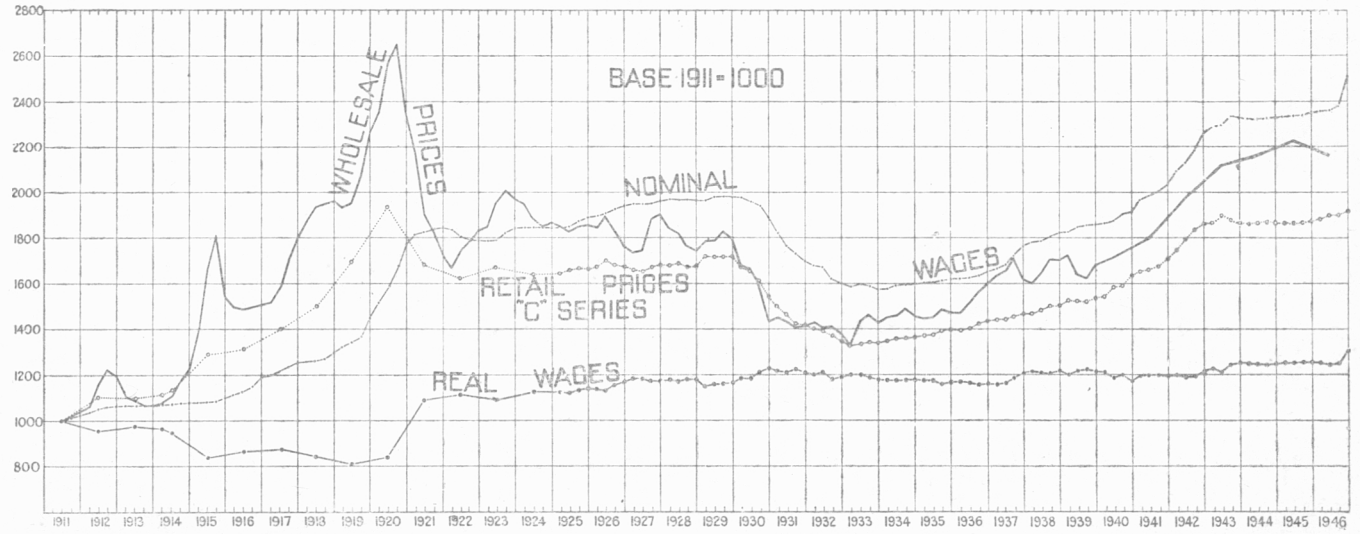
currently published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. Others are being incorporated in a number of " special-purpose " indexes, which it is hoped to publish in the future. Their construction has been delayed in order to make use, for weighting purposes, of the larger amount of information which is now becoming available as the result of the collection of more extensive statistics of factory production. The price quotations have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from home-produced building materials, coal and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of fluctuations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on average annual consumption during the years 1928–29 to 1934–35 inclusive. In the meantime, however, the original index has been continued on existing lines, as set out in § 1 of this chapter.

2. **Index-Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities and for all groups combined for this new index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table:—

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers—Basic Materials and Foodstuffs, 1928 to December, 1946.

(*Base of each Group : Year* 1928 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups
1928	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**
1930	954	1,082	612	955	548	998	951	1,053	917	951
1931	890	1,116	575	979	581	1,012	812	1,119	791	873
1932	827	1,069	539	981	530	984	792	1,082	762	842
1933	818	882	621	949	564	995	778	1,009	746	812
1934	785	816	664	885	601	979	808	989	752	811
1935	740	877	620	817	593	971	849	1,025	761	827
1936	725	909	761	815	724	984	906	1,045	807	867
1937	791	952	872	817	889	1,102	929	1,126	843	914
1938	801	949	607	831	664	1,041	960	1,094	852	911
1939	814	972	650	835	764	1,047	954	1,111	856	918
1940	836	1,230	776	969	934	1,269	998	1,339	901	1,008
1941	880	1,342	820	1,061	982	1,368	1,044	1,562	908	1,069
1942	968	1,509	934	1,163	1,037	1,540	1,187	1,804	1,007	1,202
1943	1,031	1,596	1,098	1,179	1,057	1,809	1,208	1,988	1,026	1,262
1944	1,030	1,599	1,082	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,224	1,996	1,035	1,271
1945	1,027	1,525	1,083	1,169	1,057	1,839	1,262	1,976	1,056	1,282
1946	1,023	1,417	1,187	1,164	1,057	1,867	1,285	1,938	1,072	1 284
1945—										
January ..	1,028	1,582	1,089	1,178	1,057	1,832	1,224	1,997	1,032	1,269
February ..	1,028	1,582	1,089	1,178	1,057	1,834	1,236	2,006	1,039	1,276
March ..	1,028	1,582	1,085	1,178	1,057	1,834	1,246	1,999	1,047	1,280
April ..	1,028	1,582	1,085	1,178	1,057	1,834	1,264	2,011	1,056	1,290
May ..	1,028	1,517	1,095	1,177	1,057	1,834	1,263	1,967	1,059	1,282
June ..	1,028	1,517	1,084	1,158	1,057	1,834	1,277	1,962	1,069	1,288
July ..	1,027	1,517	1,079	1,161	1,057	1,844	1,277	1,965	1,068	1,288
August ..	1,026	1,517	1,083	1,161	1,057	1,844	1,279	1,969	1,068	1,289
September ..	1,026	1,476	1,083	1,161	1,057	1,844	1,283	1,963	1,066	1,286
October ..	1,026	1,476	1,069	1,167	1,057	1,844	1,278	1,975	1,059	1,283
November ..	1,026	1,476	1,074	1,167	1,057	1,844	1,263	1,949	1,057	1,276
December ..	1,026	1,476	1,082	1,167	1,057	1,844	1,259	1,949	1,055	1,274
1946—										
January ..	1,025	1,476	1,085	1,167	1,057	1,848	1,262	1,954	1,055	1,275
February ..	1,025	1,476	1,088	1,167	1,057	1,856	1,259	1,938	1,059	1,275
March ..	1,023	1,476	1,088	1,168	1,057	1,856	1,278	1,957	1,066	1,284
April ..	1,023	1,432	1,106	1,168	1,057	1,870	1,299	1,943	1,080	1,291
May ..	1,023	1,432	1,134	1,168	1,057	1,870	1,299	1,944	1,081	1,292
June ..	1,023	1,432	1,109	1,168	1,057	1,870	1,296	1,935	1,081	1,290
July ..	1,023	1,432	1,094	1,168	1,057	1,870	1,286	1,935	1,073	1,284
August ..	1,023	1,378	1,099	1,168	1,057	1,870	1,274	1,913	1,062	1,271
September ..	1,023	1,378	1,295	1,168	1,057	1,870	1,271	1,910	1,070	1,276
October ..	1,023	1,376	1,346	1,167	1,057	1,870	1,278	1,926	1,072	1,281
November ..	1,023	1,376	1,403	1,145	1,057	1,875	1,308	1,966	1,081	1,298
December ..	1,023	1,337	1,397	1,145	1,057	1,876	1,305	1,931	1,084	1,291



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the above graph are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices, which are for Melbourne. They are all calculated to the common base 1911 = 1,000, the scale for which appears on the left of the graph. They are shown *quarterly* from 1912 to 1939, and thereafter the annual average in the case of the Wholesale Prices (Melbourne). The "C" Series Retail Prices (food, groceries, rent of 4 and 5 rooms, clothing and miscellaneous household expenditure) are shown *quarterly* from 1925. For the period 1911–1914 the "C" Series are taken back from the true base (November, 1914 = 1,000) by means of the "A" Series Index (Food and Rent of All Houses). Nominal Wages are shown *quarterly* from 1914, and Real Wages *quarterly* from 1925. Real Wages are computed on the basis of the "C" Series.

§ 3. International Comparisons: Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

The following table gives index-numbers of wholesale prices for the period 1937 to March, 1947 for Australia and other countries, the prices in each country for the period January–June, 1939 being taken as base (= 100). The figures which have been taken chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations are official except where indicated otherwise and show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country. They are obviously not comparable horizontally.

Wholesale Price Index-Numbers : Principal Countries.

(*Base : January-June,* 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Australia.	United Kingdom.		Canada.	India.(a)	Ireland.	New Zealand.	South Africa.(b)	Argentine (Buenos Aires).	Chile.	Czecho-slovakia.(c)
		Board of Trade.	*Economist.*								
1937	100	112	118	115	106	..	97	100	109	111	97
1938	99	104	104	107	96	..	98	104	103	106	96
1939	100	106	107	103	100	104	102	101	105	103	110
1940	110	140	138	113	119	131	114	113	120	114	133
1941	117	157	152	123	129	147	125	124	141	133	142
1942	131	164	160	130	158	169	134	139	182	180	145
1943	138	167	164	136	228	188	144	151	197	199	147
1944	139	171	168	140	241	196	148	156	205	205	148
1945	140	174	171	141	244	196	150	158	211	219	165
1946	140	180	182	148	267	196	150	162	227	252	288
1946—											
March Qtr. ..	139	177	176	143	252	197	152	159	218	226	270
June ,, ..	140	178	179	148	258	194	153	161	228	239	275
Sept. ,, ..	139	182	183	149	271	195	151	164	230	264	289
Dec. ,, ..	140	184	192	152	285	197	148	164	234	280	299
1947—											
March Qtr. ..	142	188	202	160	291	204	149	165	236	297	300

(*a*) Base August, 1939 = 100. (*b*) Base average of January, April and July, 1939 = 100.
(*c*) Base March, 1939 = 100.

Period.	Denmark.	Egypt.	Finland.	France.	Mexico (Mexico City).	Nether-lands.	Norway.	Peru (Lima).	Sweden.	Switzer-land.	United States.
1937	108	104	107	..	95	109	104	99	104	105	113
1938	102	102	100	96	99	103	103	100	102	101	103
1939	107	104	106	101	102	105	104	104	105	105	101
1940	157	129	142	134	102	131	137	120	134	135	103
1941	185	160	174	165	108	151	167	140	158	173	114
1942	194	213	214	194	120	158	177	176	173	198	129
1943	195	272	243	226	144	161	179	200	179	206	135
1944	198	314	269	256	184	164	181	206	179	210	136
1945	194	336	386	262	203	182	182	216	178	208	138
1946	191	326	604	625	237	253	173	232	171	203	158
1946—											
March Qtr. ..	185	336	548	487	221	241	170	219	169	202	141
June ,, ..	187	323	610	575	232	247	173	225	169	201	146
Sept. ,, ..	193	323	625	642	243	257	174	234	169	202	165
Dec. ,, ..	202	321	636	795	254	265	176	251	173	206	181
1947—											
March Qtr. ..	204	309	648	836	247	270	176	269	178	207	190

CHAPTER III.—WAGES.

§ 1. Operations Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth and State Laws for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*.

2. **Laws Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The Laws in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions are as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH.

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1947.
National Security Act 1939–1940 and certain Regulations made thereunder.
Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act 1946.
Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934.
Industrial Board Ordinance, 1936–1946 (Australian Capital Territory).

STATES.

New South Wales ..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1940–1947.
Victoria	Factories and Shops Act 1928–1945.
Queensland ..	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1945.
South Australia ..	The Industrial Code 1920–1943 ; Economic Stability Act 1946.
Western Australia ..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1941.
Tasmania	Wages Board Act 1920–1945.

3. **Methods of Administration.**—(i) COMMONWEALTH—(*a*) *Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration*—The main authority is the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration which began to function in 1905. It consists of a Chief Judge, and such other judges as are appointed ; Conciliation Commissioners (undefined as regards number) ; and a Chief Conciliation Commissioner.

The Act provides that where a State award or determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail, and the Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State Authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority.

During the 1939–45 War, the powers of the Court were considerably enlarged under National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations (Statutory Rules No. 290 of 1940 and subsequent amendments) to secure the prompt settlement of industrial disputes occurring or likely to occur, and such regulations were to be construed as if their provisions were incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These regulations have been continued in force under the Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act No. 77 of 1946.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 10 of 1947 (assented to 20th May, 1947*) provided for marked changes in the respective powers and functions of the Judges and the Conciliation Commissioners. The Commissioners were given wide powers, without technical and artificial hindrances, to go to the cause of impending industrial trouble and to endeavour to remove the cause of the trouble by conciliating the disputants. If this fails, the Conciliation Commissioner should then, but not until then, with no further formalities, act in an arbitral capacity to prevent or settle the dispute by making an award or order. It was also provided that an award or order of a Conciliation Commissioner shall not be challenged, appealed against, reviewed, quashed or called in question, or be subject to prohibition, mandamus or injunction, in any Court of account whatever. A Conciliation Commissioner, however, is not empowered to make an award or order altering (*a*) the standard hours of work in industry; (*b*) the basic wage or principles upon which it is computed; (*c*) the period which shall be granted as annual leave with pay; or (*d*) the minimum rate of remuneration for adult females in industry—the decisions in all of which matters lie with the Court.

Other authorities operating in the Commonwealth industrial arbitration sphere are the following:—

(*b*) *Coal Industry.*—Two authorities have been constituted for this industry, viz., the Commonwealth Coal Commissioner (under the Coal Production (War-time) Act No. 1 of 1944), and the Joint Coal Board (under the Coal Industry Act No. 40 of 1946). The earlier Act covers all States, but the later Act covers the State of New South Wales only.

(*c*) *Stevedoring Industry.*—The authority is the Stevedoring Industry Commission (under the Stevedoring Industry Act No. 2 of 1947†). This authority is a continuation of the war-time authorities set up by the National Security (Stevedoring) Regulations of 1942, and the National Security (Shipping Co-ordination) Regulations of 1944.

The functions of the Commission are (*a*) to prevent or settle, by conciliation or arbitration, industrial disputes, extending beyond the limits of any one State, in connexion with stevedoring operations and (*b*) to regulate industrial matters in connexion with stevedoring operations, and to regulate and control the performance of stevedoring operations, insofar as those operations relate to trade and commerce with other countries or among the States or are performed in a Territory of the Commonwealth. The Act provides that the Commission shall exercise its functions with a view to securing (*a*) the speedy, safe and efficient performance of stevedoring operations (*b*) the provision of sufficient waterside workers for stevedoring operations and (*c*) the use of the labour of waterside workers to the best advantage.

(*d*) *Commonwealth Public Service.*—Wages, hours of labour and working conditions in the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who was appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but the Government can move the Parliament to exercise its right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

* Proclaimed 10th October, 1947. † Not yet proclaimed (31st October, 1947).

(e) *Australian Capital Territory.*—The regulation of industrial matters in the Australian Capital Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922. The Industrial Board is constituted under the Industrial Board Ordinance 1936–1946 and comprises a Chairman and four other members, being representatives of the Commonwealth, private employers and two representing employees. At present the Chairman of the Board is a Conciliation Commissioner of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

Originally provision was made for the regulation by the Industrial Board of the awards and working conditions of Commonwealth employees and those working on Commonwealth contracts only. In 1936 the ordinance was amended to bring employees in private industry under the jurisdiction of the Industrial Board. Determinations have since been made covering the majority of occupations in private enterprise.

On the 1st May, 1946, the Ordinance was further amended to define an industrial matter as follows:—

> "'Industrial matter' includes any matter pertaining to the relations of employer and employee and the employment, preferential employment, dismissal or non-employment of any particular persons, or of persons of any particular sex or age."

The amending ordinance also provided that the Industrial Board may interpret its own awards.

The Industrial Board was thus given almost unlimited jurisdiction over all matters relating to employment (outside the Commonwealth Public Service) in the Territory. This extension of the Board's powers is regarded as one of the most important advances in industrial control in the Territory since the Industrial Board was created in 1922.

(ii) STATES—(a) *New South Wales.*—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of six Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioner, the Apprenticeship Commissioner, Conciliation Committees, and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of the Conciliation Commissioner as chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(b) *Victoria.*—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the County Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(c) *Queensland.*—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

(d) *South Australia.*—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned.

Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(*e*) *Western Australia.*—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and Commissioners. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(*f*) *Tasmania.*—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

4. Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.—The following table shows the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed, excluding variations, in each State and under the Commonwealth legislation dealing with these matters during each of the years 1942 to 1946.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.

State, etc.	1942.		1943.		1944.		1945.		1946.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.
New South Wales ..	72	23	24	11	36	10	40	19	66	18
Victoria	202	..	129	..	110	..	69	..	116	..
Queensland	27	29	17	35	14	29	58	33	23	47
South Australia	160	12	44	7	31	3	48	6	124	13
Western Australia ..	19	19	6	12	9	9	9	11	12	6
Tasmania	19	..	20	..	16	..	6	..	9	..
Commonwealth Court ..	52	20	43	17	45	13	29	23	13	26
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator ..	4	..	3	..	4	..	7	..	2	..
Total	555	103	286	82	265	64	266	92	365	110

The figures in the above table exclude variations and interpretations of principal awards and agreements, of which a considerable number are made each year. Variations of awards, agreements, and determinations made by the State and the Commonwealth Courts, Wages and Industrial Boards, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator numbered 2,137 in 1946 compared with 1,272 in 1945, and were distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 1,119 (664 in 1945); Victoria, 16 (19); Queensland, 454 (251); South Australia, 149 (41); Western Australia, 17 (24); Tasmania, 9 (9); Commonwealth Court, 317 (180), and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, 56 (84).

The registration of industrial agreements is not provided for under the Victorian and Tasmanian Acts, but agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act are in operation within those States.

5. Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place since 1913 when the tabulation of such statistics was first undertaken by the Bureau, and

until 1939 the figures showing approximately the magnitude of these operations were published in this Report. Since that year their publication has ceased owing to great difficulties in obtaining precise data for reasons explained in part in the following paragraph.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Clause 28 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Clause 47 (2), and in legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian Wages Board Act, 1934 repealed Part IV. of the Principal Act providing for industrial agreements and all such agreements ceased to operate from the commencement of the Act unless an agreement existed in a trade to which no determination of a Board was applicable, in which case the agreement remained in force until its expiry or until a determination was made.

6. **New Legislation and Special Reports.**—Information concerning the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout Australia was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year respecting new industrial legislation, as well as details respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this Report, brief particulars are given regarding new industrial legislation during the period January, 1946 to June, 1947 and special reports and tribunals connected with industrial matters during the year 1946:—

(i) *Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.*—The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court during 1946 was 13, and 26 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. Thirty-three (91 in 1945) agreements and 284 (171) awards were varied.

New legislation of industrial import passed in 1946 was the Coal Industry Act No. 40 of 1946 to provide means for securing and maintaining supplies of coal throughout Australia, and providing for the regulation and improvement of the coal industry in the State of New South Wales, and for other purposes.

New legislation passed in the first half of 1947 was the Stevedoring Act No. 2 of 1947 for the continuation of war-time authorities set up by the National Security (Stevedoring) Regulations of 1942, and the National Security (Shipping Co-ordination) Regulations of 1944; and the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 10 of 1947, amending the Act of 1904–1946, a brief summary of which is given on page 50 hereof.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—During the year 1946 the number of Conciliation Committees established under the Industrial Act was 14, and the number which expired, were dissolved or were no longer operative was 7. At the end of the year 366 Committees were in force. In addition, 323 Industrial Boards constituted under the Act were in force, but no awards were issued by these Boards, the work previously performed by them being undertaken mainly by the Conciliation Committees. Principal awards made by the Industrial Commission numbered 39 (26 in 1945), by Conciliation Committees, 25 (13), and by Apprenticeship Councils 2 (1). The number of variations made during the year was 1,119, of which 178 (115 in 1945) were made by the Industrial Commission, 124 (93) by Conciliation Committees, and 817 (456) by the Industrial Registrar. Eighteen agreements were filed and 3 (15 in 1945) variations of agreements made. At the end of the year principal awards in force numbered 676 (661 at the end of 1945), and industrial agreements, 179 (172).

Declarations of the Basic Wage made by the Industrial Commission will be found on page 100.

The only legislation of industrial import passed in 1946 was Part II. (Economic Stability) of the Economic Stability and War-time Provisions Continuation Act 1946, No. 54, on the same lines as indicated below for Act No. 5202 of 1946 in Victoria. In the first half of 1947, the Industrial Arbitration (Forty Hours Week) Amendment Act No. 6 of 1947 was passed, providing for the adoption of a forty-hour week in certain industries.

(iii) *Victoria.*—Wages Boards made 116 determinations during the year, the number including determinations which were reviewed more than once during the twelve months. The number of variations issued during the year was 16 compared with 19 in 1945.

An amendment (Act No. 4461 of 1936) of the Factories and Shops Act provided *inter alia* for the incorporation in all determinations of Wages Boards, so far as they do not conflict with State law, of the provisions of Commonwealth Arbitration Court awards for corresponding industries.

The only legislation of industrial import passed in the period January, 1946 to June, 1947 was the Economic Stability Act No. 5202 of 1946 to make provision for the preservation of economic stability and for other purposes (Adoption and continuance of " Commonwealth Regulations ", viz., National Security (Prices), (Landlord and Tenant), (Capital Issues) and (Economic Organization) (other than regulation 4 and Part V.) Regulations).

(iv) *Queensland.*—Twenty-three industrial awards were made during the year, all of which were awards of the Industrial Court. Industrial agreements filed numbered 47, variations of awards 405 (230 in 1945), and variations of agreements, 49 (21). At the end of the year 290 (286 in 1945) awards and 243 (201) industrial agreements were in force.

On page 102 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

The only legislation of industrial import passed in 1946 and the first half of 1947 was the Economic Stability Act of 1946 No. 18 on the same lines as indicated above for Act No. 5202 of 1946 in Victoria.

(v) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Court made 14 (13 in 1945) awards during the year and 110 (35) determinations were made by Industrial Boards. Thirteen industrial agreements were filed. The number of awards, determinations and agreements varied by the Court or Industrial Boards was 149 compared with 41 in 1945.

Particulars of variations in the "Living Wage" determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 104.

The only legislation of industrial interest passed in the period January, 1946 to June, 1947 was the Economic Stability Act No. 52 of 1946 for the same purposes as indicated above for Act No. 5202 of 1946 in Victoria. This Act also provided for the adoption of the Adelaide basic wage rate of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration as the Living Wage for the metropolitan area of South Australia under conditions shortly described on page 103 of this Report.

(vi) *Western Australia.*—During the year the Industrial Court made 12 awards, but no awards were made by Industrial Boards. Six industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the State Act during 1946. Seventeen (24 in 1945) awards were varied. No (7) industrial agreements were varied. At the end of the year there were 250 (239) awards and 234 (228) agreements in force.

Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 105.

The only legislation of industrial interest passed in 1946 and the first half of 1947 was the Economic Stability Act No. 62 of 1946, on the same lines as indicated above for Act No. 5202 of 1946 in Victoria.

(vii) *Tasmania.*—During the year Wages Boards made 9 determinations, and varied 9 determinations.

At the end of the year 68 determinations were in force.

Legislation passed in 1946 and the first half of 1947 comprised the Apprentices Act (No. 2) 1946, No. 6; Wages Board Act (No. 2) 1946, No. 25; Apprentices Act 1946, No. 54; Industries Establishment Act 1946, No. 58; Wages Board Act 1946, No. 65; Economic Stability Act 1947 No. 1 (on same lines as indicated above for Act No. 5202 of 1946 in Victoria).

(viii) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.*—During 1946 the Arbitrator made two new determinations and varied 56 existing determinations.

(ix) *Australian Capital Territory.*—At 30th June, 1947 there were 23 determinations of the Industrial Board in force.

7. **Control of Wages During and Since the War.**—(i) *The "Wage-Pegging" Regulations.*—The National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations, dated 19th February, 1942 (Statutory Rules 1942, No. 76*) provided in Part V.—Industrial Provisions (Regulations 14 to 19) for the "pegging" of all rates of remuneration at those being paid on 10th February, 1942, whether fixed by an Industrial Authority or by individual employers, an "employee" for this purpose including a director of a company who is paid any remuneration, whether by a periodical payment of by fees or otherwise.

The following "exceptions" to the general rule were provided for in the original Regulations and in subsequent amendments thereof, viz.:—

(*a*) where claims had been lodged with an Industrial Authority prior to 10th February, 1942, and provided a decision was made prior to 1st May, 1942, or such later date as the Minister in special cases should approve (this date was altered from time to time by subsequent amendments);

* As amended by Statutory Rules 1942, Nos. 81, 145, 160, 218, 224, 248, 257, 293, 318, 332, 344, 458, 490, 537; 1943, 21, 60, 76, 142, 190; 1944, 148; 1945, 11, 45, 71, 91; 1946, 61, 63, 184, 196, 197; 1947, 32, 43, 49, 145.

(*b*) where the Industrial Authority is satisfied that the rates in respect of which the alteration is sought are anomalous, or there has been a change of circumstances in respect of the employment, and provided the approval of the Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court (or (later) of the Chairman of the Joint Coal Board in matters relating to coal-mines) was obtained to proceed with the claim on prima facie evidence being submitted to him that the alteration should be made ;

(*c*) where the alteration is in consequence of any automatic or other adjustment following a variation in the cost of living ; and

(*d*) where in various instances during the operation of the Regulations it was found necessary to extend the " exceptions " (e.g., for particular industries, bonus payments, water money, &c.) and to make new provisions to enlarge the powers of State Industrial Authorities in order to ensure a uniform and equitable administration of the Regulations in both Commonwealth and State industrial spheres, while at the same time safeguarding the general objectives of the Regulations.

The Regulations were divided into Parts as follows :—Part I.—Preliminary ; Part II.—Limitation of Profits ; Part III.—Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Property ; Part IV.—Interest Rates ; Part V.—Industrial Provisions and Part VI.—Miscellaneous. Part V. was administered by the Minister of State for Labour and National Service and all other Parts by the Treasurer. It will be seen, therefore, that the Regulations were all-embracing in respect of the control of a large and important section of the national economy under war conditions.

(ii) *The " Unpegging " of Wages.*—The first move on the part of the Commonwealth Government to " unpeg " wages was embodied in National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations as amended by Statutory Rules 1946, No. 63, dated 28th March, 1946, which authorized the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to vary (*a*) standard hours, and (*b*) the basic wage or the principles upon which it was determined. Under the power thus conferred, and by the intervention of the Attorney-General for the Commonwealth, the Court was enabled to convert an hours case then being heard for a single industry (Printing) into a " Standard Hours " case covering industry as a whole, upon which basis this case opened on 22nd May, 1946. The intervention of the Attorney-General to secure the restoration to the Full Court List of the deferred 1940 basic wage Case (and applications subsequently received by the Court for variations in the " real " basic wage), and the " interim " judgment resulting therefrom are summarized in sub-section vi on page 85 of this Report.

The next major move of this nature by the Government was the amendment of the Regulations as promulgated in Statutory Rules No. 184 of 1946, dated 12th December, 1946. This amendment enables rates of remuneration to be altered in certain circumstances by Industrial Authorities at their discretion without seeking the approval of the Chief Judge of the Court or the Chairman of the Joint Coal Board, within the limits set out in the following " formula " (by which term it is now commonly known) :—

(*d*) if the altered rate does not exceed the sum of—

(i) the basic rate for the time being applicable ;

(ii) the marginal rate applicable on 1st September, 1939 ;

(iii) an amount which bears to the marginal rate applicable on that day the same proportion as the number by which the "C" Series index-number for the six capital cities for the third quarter of the year 1946 exceeded the "C" Series index-number for the six capital cities for the second quarter of the year 1939 bears to the latter index-number, and

(iv) an amount calculated at Three shillings per week; or

(*e*) for the purpose of increasing the rate or remuneration of female employees to a rate not exceeding—

(i) in the case of a female who is entitled to be paid at an adult rate of remuneration not based on experience—seventy-five per centum of the corresponding minimum male rate; or

(ii) in the case of a female who is entitled to be paid at a rate-for-age rate of remuneration or at an experience rate of remuneration—the rate which bears to seventy-five per centum of the corresponding minimum male rate the same proportion as the rate which she was, or would have been, entitled to be paid at the date of the commencement of this paragraph bears to the rate prescribed at that date for an adult female or a fully experienced female, as the case may be.

In regard to paragraph (*d*), above, the "basic wage" as determined by any Industrial Authority (i), does not include the amount of any loading other than the loading commonly known as the "prosperity loading", and the "marginal rate" (ii), means the amount by which the total rate of remuneration exceeds the basic rate. The "C" Series index-numbers referred to in (iii) for the second (June) quarter, 1939, and the third (September) quarter, 1946, are respectively 917 and 1,146, representing an increase of 25 per centum for application to the "marginal rates" of (ii). It should be noted in respect to (*e*) that the rate of seventy-five per centum of the male rate was hitherto restricted mainly to females whose wages were controlled by the Women's Employment Board (*vide* page 90), and females in Vital Industries as defined (*vide* footnote † page 89).

The amendments also widened the powers of Industrial Authorities to adjust marginal rates which appear to such Authorities to require adjustment having regard to the marginal rates in other occupations, or to adjust piece rates (including rates payable under any other system of payment by results), penalty rates or shift rates. The procedure of Industrial Authorities in these cases is the same as that which already applied to "anomaly and change of circumstances" cases. The amendments also enable the amount of an increase in the basic wage awarded by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to be adopted by other Authorities, and also to be granted by employers in respect of employees whose rate of remuneration is not prescribed by awards, &c.

There was some misunderstanding as to the effect of the Regulation, particularly in view of the elaborate and complex nature of judgments delivered by the Arbitration Court on 31st March, 1947 in connexion with a case dealing with week-end work rates, which had been referred to the Full

Court for decision on the grounds of alleged obscurity as to the incidence of the Regulations. Of the six points submitted to the Court, however, the Regulations proved a bar to only one, viz., that relating to (*a*) a claim for time and a half for day workers for Saturday work, which the Court disallowed. In respect of the other five points, the Court gave judgment unrestricted by the Regulations, viz., (*b*) allowed time and a quarter, but disallowed in general time and a half for Saturday work performed by shift workers, except as provided in (*c*); (*c*) allowed time and a half for shift workers in respect of Saturday work in several specified industries; (*d*) disallowed double time for shift work on Sunday; (*e*) decided that in the computation of overtime, Saturday and Sunday time were not to "stand alone"; and (*f*) allowed the claim for double time in cases where time and a half is now payable for Sunday overtime.

A further amendment of the Regulations was made on 9th April, 1947 (and promulgated in Statutory Rules 1947, No. 49). The following sub-regulations were substituted for sub-regulations (3.) and (4.) of regulation 18:—

"(3.) Where the matter of an alteration of a rate of remuneration comes before an Industrial Authority or Public Employment Authority by a plaint, reference or application or by a proposal for an industrial agreement lodged with or made to that Authority, and that Authority has not, under any other provision of this Part, authority to do any act or thing to effect the alteration, that Authority shall, if, after a preliminary hearing or examination of the matter, the Authority is of opinion that the grounds on which the alteration is sought provide *prima facie* evidence that an alteration should be made, submit—

(*a*) in the case of matters affecting members of the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation (other than those members who are excepted by the Commonwealth Coal Commissioner by order in pursuance of the Coal Production (War-time) Act 1944 or by the Joint Coal Board by order in pursuance of the Coal Industry Act 1946)—to the Chairman of the Joint Coal Board; and

(*b*) in the case of all other matters—to the Chief Judge of the Court,

a statement setting out—

(*c*) the grounds on which the alteration is sought;

(*d*) the reasons for the opinion of the Authority; and

(*e*) the principles by which the Authority would be guided in making the alteration.

"(4.) The Chief Judge of the Court or the Chairman of the Joint Coal Board, as the case may be, after consideration of the statement, may, if he is satisfied that it is not opposed to the national interest so to do, make an order authorizing the Industrial Authority or Public Employment Authority, on such conditions and subject to such limitations as the Chief Judge or the Chairman of the Joint Coal Board, in his discretion, thinks fit, to proceed to hear and determine, or to do any act or thing in relation to, the matter of the alteration."

Thus, authority was granted to all Industrial Authorities, Commonwealth and State, to alter rates of remuneration in any type of case, provided the Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Court or the Chairman of the Joint Coal Board, as the case may be, has first certified that he is satisfied that an alteration is not opposed to the national interest. The cases which in future may be dealt with after such approval has been given will no longer be restricted to those arising out of anomalies, change of circumstances or the need to adjust marginal rates and piece, penalty and shift rates : in fact, any alteration of remuneration which cannot be made independently by an Industrial Authority under the other provisions of the Regulations can be made, provided the Chief Judge's approval to an alteration is first obtained.

(NOTE.—*See* Appendix IX. for details of further comprehensive amendments of these Regulations.)

§ 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General.**—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed ; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were not of course available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,* and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking the arithmetical average† of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. It is not claimed that the results obtained by this method are precisely correct, but, owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no detailed system of weights could be applied. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was

* The adopted classification of industries is shown on page iii.
† The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the average wage for that State for the particular year. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 20 of 1929.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28–43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars included of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations. The aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44–50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been kept constant, but the particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections V. and VI.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or were obtained by direct inquiry.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652.

The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State.

2. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914–1946.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948

RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
31st December, 1936	85 6	83 1	88 7	79 6	90 7	83 3	85 0
,, ,, 1937	92 1	88 1	92 8	85 10	93 1	87 0	90 4
,, ,, 1938	95 0	91 2	95 10	87 1	99 1	88 5	93 5
,, ,, 1939	96 7	93 6	97 5	88 11	100 6	89 5	95 3
,, ,, 1940	99 7	97 0	97 9	92 11	104 0	92 7	98 1
,, ,, 1941	105 4	104 5	101 9	100 3	110 2	99 3	104 3
,, ,, 1942	118 3	116 7	110 2	112 3	117 7	108 2	115 8
,, ,, 1943	121 3	119 7	116 10	113 9	122 2	116 9	119 5
,, ,, 1944	121 4	119 6	118 0	113 7	121 10	116 6	119 6
31st March, 1945	121 4	119 7	118 0	113 8	122 1	116 5	119 7
30th June, 1945	121 0	119 9	119 3	114 1	122 1	116 3	119 8
30th September, 1945	121 1	120 0	119 5	114 5	122 9	116 3	119 11
31st December, 1945	121 10	120 4	119 10	114 5	122 9	116 11	120 4
31st March, 1946	122 0	120 11	119 10	114 10	122 11	117 8	120 8
30th June, 1946	122 4	121 0	120 0	114 11	123 9	117 9	120 11
30th September, 1946	123 3	121 9	120 11	117 2	124 7	118 5	121 10
31st December, 1946	130 11	128 11	128 0	121 4	125 7	125 2	128 6

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*), 1911 = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
31st December, 1936	1,668	1,621	1,729	1,552	1,768	1,625	1,659
,, ,, 1937	1,797	1,719	1,808	1,674	1,816	1,697	1,763
,, ,, 1938	1,854	1,780	1,870	1,700	1,933	1,725	1,823
,, ,, 1939	1,885	1,825	1,900	1,735	1,962	1,745	1,858
,, ,, 1940	1,943	1,892	1,908	1,812	2,029	1,807	1,913
,, ,, 1941	2,056	2,037	1,985	1,957	2,149	1,937	2 034
,, ,, 1942	2,308	2,275	2,150	2,189	2,294	2,111	2,257
,, ,, 1943	2,366	2,333	2,279	2,219	2,383	2,279	2,329
,, ,, 1944	2,367	2,332	2,303	2,216	2,377	2,273	2,332
31st March, 1945	2,367	2,383	2,303	2,218	2,382	2,272	2,333
30th June, 1945	2,361	2,337	2,327	2,226	2,382	2,268	2,336
30th September, 1945	2,362	2,341	2,330	2,233	2,395	2,269	2,340
31st December, 1945	2,377	2,347	2,339	2,233	2,395	2,282	2,348
31st March, 1946	2,380	2,359	2,339	2,240	2,398	2,295	2,354
30th June, 1946	2,387	2,362	2,341	2,243	2,415	2,297	2,360
30th September, 1946	2,404	2,376	2,359	2,287	2,431	2,310	2,378
31st December, 1946	2,554	2,515	2,498	2,368	2,450	2,442	2,507

3. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1946.**—The following table shows for Australia (*a*) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (*b*) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-Numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group.

Date.	Industrial Group. I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.(a)	XII. Agricultural, etc.(b)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(b)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.															
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th June, 1914 ..	59 2	57 2	55 2	52 10	63 9	55 8	65 4	64 11	59 8	51 1	48 7	49 5	47 0	53 10	55 3
31st December, 1938 ..	98 2	97 8	95 2	91 9	112 0	94 4	104 6	108 2	95 5	91 7	97 6	82 3	88 3	90 5	93 5
,, ,, 1939 ..	100 1	99 3	96 9	93 2	114 3	95 8	106 5	109 1	96 6	92 10	98 6	84 0	89 11	92 10	95 3
,, ,, 1940 ..	102 11	102 5	99 3	96 4	116 0	99 0	109 11	111 10	100 3	96 3	102 6	85 8	93 0	96 3	98 1
,, ,, 1941 ..	108 5	110 0	106 1	105 7	119 6	107 0	116 11	115 1	108 8	101 11	106 9	93 6	97 10	101 2	104 3
,, ,, 1942 ..	118 2	118 11	114 3	116 10	131 4	116 4	127 3	123 9	118 9	110 3	119 9	111 8	107 5	111 1	115 8
,, ,, 1943 ..	121 0	121 1	117 8	119 7	135 4	118 8	128 11	126 6	121 9	112 0	122 10	118 11	109 8	114 3	119 5
,, ,, 1944 ..	121 1	121 2	118 0	119 0	134 8	118 8	129 1	126 11	121 10	112 1	122 2	119 4	109 9	114 5	119 6
31st March, 1945 ..	121 1	120 11	118 1	119 0	134 8	118 9	129 3	126 10	122 3	112 1	122 2	119 5	109 9	114 5	119 7
30th June, 1945 ..	120 9	120 6	118 2	118 8	134 4	118 7	128 11	126 5	121 11	111 8	122 2	121 5	109 4	114 0	119 8
30th September, 1945..	120 9	120 7	118 2	118 11	134 4	118 8	129 4	126 9	122 7	113 0	122 2	121 8	109 5	114 2	119 11
31st December, 1945 ..	121 4	121 0	118 9	118 11	134 9	119 3	130 11	127 2	122 9	113 5	122 3	121 9	109 9	114 7	120 4
31st March, 1946 ..	121 9	121 2	118 10	118 11	134 9	119 5	133 11	127 5	123 1	113 7	122 3	121 10	109 10	114 8	120 8
30th June, 1946 ..	121 10	121 2	119 0	119 8	139 1	119 11	134 1	127 5	123 3	113 7	123 2	121 10	110 2	114 9	120 11
30th September, 1946	122 10	122 3	120 2	120 0	139 4	121 1	135 3	128 6	124 2	114 7	124 3	122 5	111 3	115 10	121 10
31st December, 1946 ..	129 2	129 1	126 9	126 11	148 2	128 1	141 10	134 6	130 10	121 7	131 6	129 0	117 4	122 6	128 6
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*), 1911 = 1,000.)															
30th June, 1914 ..	1,154	1,116	1,077	1,031	1,243	1,086	1,275	1,267	1,164	997	948	964	918	1,050	1,079
31st December, 1938 ..	1,916	1,906	1,857	1,790	2,185	1,840	2,039	2,111	1,862	1,787	1,902	1,604	1,722	1,764	1,823
,, ,, 1939 ..	1,953	1,936	1,888	1,817	2,229	1,867	2,076	2,142	1,884	1,812	1,922	1,639	1,755	1,811	1,858
,, ,, 1940 ..	2,008	1,998	1,937	1,880	2,264	1,931	2,145	2,182	1,957	1,878	2,001	1,671	1,815	1,878	1,913
,, ,, 1941 ..	2,116	2,147	2,071	2,060	2,332	2,088	2,282	2,245	2,121	1,989	2,082	1,825	1,908	1,974	2,034
,, ,, 1942 ..	2,306	2,321	2,229	2,280	2,562	2,270	2,484	2,415	2,316	2,151	2,336	2,179	2,095	2,167	2,257
,, ,, 1943 ..	2,362	2,363	2,297	2,334	2,640	2,316	2,516	2,468	2,376	2,186	2,397	2,321	2,140	2,230	2,329
,, ,, 1944 ..	2,363	2,364	2,303	2,321	2,627	2,315	2,518	2,477	2,377	2,188	2,383	2,328	2,142	2,232	2,332
31st March, 1945 ..	2,363	2,360	2,304	2,321	2,627	2,316	2,522	2,475	2,385	2,188	2,383	2,339	2,142	2,233	2,333
30th June, 1945 ..	2,356	2,352	2,306	2,315	2,621	2,313	2,515	2,466	2,378	2,179	2,384	2,369	2,134	2,225	2,336
30th September, 1945..	2,356	2,353	2,306	2,321	2,622	2,315	2,524	2,473	2,391	2,205	2,384	2,373	2,134	2,227	2,340
31st December, 1945 ..	2,368	2,361	2,316	2,321	2,630	2,326	2,555	2,482	2,396	2,213	2,385	2,376	2,142	2,236	2,348
31st March, 1946 ..	2,375	2,364	2,319	2,321	2,630	2,330	2,613	2,486	2,402	2,216	2,385	2,377	2,143	2,238	2,354
30th June, 1946 ..	2,378	2,365	2,323	2,335	2,715	2,340	2,616	2,486	2,405	2,217	2,404	2,377	2,149	2,239	2,360
30th September, 1946	2,397	2,385	2,344	2,341	2,719	2,362	2,640	2,507	2,423	2,236	2,424	2,389	2,170	2,268	2,378
31st December, 1946 ..	2,520	2,519	2,473	2,476	2,891	2,499	2,768	2,624	2,553	2,372	2,566	2,517	2,289	2,390	2,507

(a) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied. (b) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914-1946.—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308
RATES OF WAGE.							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
31st December, 1936 ..	45 7	46 10	48 4	43 4	50 11	45 1	46 5
,, ,, 1937 ..	50 2	49 2	51 4	46 10	51 0	48 6	49 8
,, ,, 1938 ..	51 10	50 7	53 6	47 9	54 4	49 8	51 3
,, ,, 1939 ..	53 3	51 9	55 2	49 7	55 8	50 8	52 8
,, ,, 1940 ..	54 9	53 5	56 0	52 1	57 6	53 1	54 3
,, ,, 1941 ..	57 11	58 4	59 6	55 5	60 4	56 7	58 2
,, ,, 1942 ..	63 10	64 11	66 4	60 3	64 2	61 3	64 4
,, ,, 1943 ..	67 11	70 2	69 9	61 3	66 6	63 3	68 4
,, ,, 1944 ..	71 3	73 11	74 1	65 4	65 10	68 6	71 11
31st March, 1945 ..	71 3	74 0	74 1	66 1	65 10	68 5	72 0
30th June, 1945.. ..	70 11	73 11	74 1	66 1	65 10	68 3	71 10
30th September, 1945 ..	71 0	73 11	74 1	66 1	66 0	68 4	71 11
31st December, 1945 ..	71 3	73 11	74 1	66 1	66 0	68 5	72 0
31st March, 1946 ..	71 3	74 0	74 1	66 1	66 0	68 7	72 0
30th June, 1946.. ..	71 5	74 3	74 3	66 6	66 8	68 10	72 3
30th September, 1946 ..	71 9	74 7	74 10	70 9	67 2	69 0	72 11
31st December, 1946 ..	76 0	78 6	79 5	72 10	67 2	72 7	76 9
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)							
30th June, 1914 ..	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
31st December, 1936 ..	1,677	1,722	1,780	1,594	1,873	1,661	1,708
,, ,, 1937 ..	1,848	1,810	1,889	1,724	1,877	1,785	1,828
,, ,, 1938 ..	1,907	1,862	1,969	1,758	2,000	1,828	1,887
,, ,, 1939 ..	1,960	1,906	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,866	1,938
,, ,, 1940 ..	2,016	1,966	2,060	1,916	2,116	1,954	1,996
,, ,, 1941 ..	2,133	2,148	2,191	2,038	2,220	2,082	2,141
,, ,, 1942 ..	2,350	2,391	2,442	2,216	2,361	2,255	2,368
,, ,, 1943 ..	2,501	2,582	2,568	2,253	2,446	2,329	2,516
,, ,, 1944 ..	2,622	2,722	2,726	2,406	2,422	2,520	2,647
31st March, 1945 ..	2,622	2,722	2,726	2,431	2,422	2,517	2,649
30th June, 1945.. ..	2,609	2,720	2,726	2,431	2,422	2,512	2,643
30th September, 1945 ..	2,612	2,722	2,726	2,431	2,428	2,516	2,646
31st December, 1945 ..	2,623	2,722	2,726	2,431	2,428	2,517	2,650
31st March, 1946 ..	2,623	2,724	2,726	2,431	2,428	2,525	2,650
30th June, 1946.. ..	2,628	2,732	2,734	2,446	2,454	2,532	2,659
30th September, 1946 ..	2,640	2,745	2,755	2,605	2,472	2,538	2,684
31st December, 1946 ..	2,799	2,889	2,923	2,679	2,472	2,673	2,824

5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1946.—The following table shows for Australia (*a*) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (*b*) the weighted average rate for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in Industrial Groups.

Date.	Industrial Group. III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manufacturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(*a*)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	22 6	24 9	26 11	31 1	30 2	27 2
31st December, 1936	43 1	44 9	45 8	47 1	50 9	46 5
" " 1937	45 7	48 1	49 4	51 1	53 0	49 8
" " 1938	47 1	49 9	50 6	52 11	54 6	51 3
" " 1939	48 9	50 9	51 11	54 5	56 8	52 8
" " 1940	50 0	52 6	53 8	55 10	57 11	54 3
" " 1941	53 5	57 4	58 0	58 9	60 7	58 2
" " 1942	59 8	63 11	64 7	63 4	67 1	64 4
" " 1943	62 3	66 2	71 5	65 10	75 11	68 4
" " 1944	62 7	72 9	71 10	67 1	76 4	71 11
31st March, 1945	62 9	72 9	71 10	67 5	76 4	72 0
30th June, 1945	62 7	72 8	71 6	67 3	76 1	71 10
30th September, 1945 ..	62 9	72 9	71 6	67 3	76 1	71 11
31st December, 1945 ..	62 11	72 9	71 9	67 5	76 4	72 0
31st March, 1946	63 5	72 9	71 9	67 5	76 4	72 0
30th June, 1946	64 1	73 2	71 9	67 6	76 4	72 3
30th September, 1946 ..	64 8	73 4	72 5	68 8	77 10	72 11
31st December, 1946 ..	68 8	77 2	77 3	72 9	81 0	76 9
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base: Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.*)						
30th June, 1914	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
31st December, 1936	1,585	1,646	1,680	1,734	1,867	1,708
" " 1937	1,677	1,770	1,815	1,880	1,952	1,828
" " 1938	1,732	1,831	1,859	1,947	2,004	1,887
" " 1939	1,795	1,869	1,910	2,003	2,085	1,938
" " 1940	1,841	1,932	1,975	2,056	2,132	1,996
" " 1941	1,967	2,110	2,134	2,163	2,229	2,141
" " 1942	2,195	2,354	2,378	2,332	2,468	2,368
" " 1943	2,291	2,435	2,629	2,424	2,794	2,516
" " 1944	2,304	2,678	2,643	2,470	2,809	2,647
31st March, 1945	2,305	2,678	2,643	2,480	2,809	2,649
30th June, 1945	2,304	2,675	2,633	2,474	2,801	2,643
30th September, 1945 ..	2,311	2,678	2,633	2,474	2,801	2,646
31st September, 1945 ..	2,317	2,678	2,640	2,481	2,809	2,650
31st March, 1946	2,333	2,678	2,641	2,481	2,809	2,650
30th June, 1946	2,358	2,693	2,642	2,484	2,809	2,659
30th September, 1946 ..	2,379	2,699	2,664	2,528	2,865	2,684
31st December, 1946 ..	2,526	2,840	2,842	2,678	2,980	2,824

(*a*) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

6. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1946.—(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in many instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between the same trades

and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections V. and VI.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (*a*) the average weekly wage; (*b*) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (*c*) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.) and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Many of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1946. Particulars as at 31st December, 1945, appear in *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* No. 183, March, 1946.

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1946.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (*a*)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	Weekly Wage	134/10	128/6	129/2	124/1	121/9	125/1	129/2
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	3/0¾	2/11	2/11¼	2/9¾	2/9¼	2/10	2/11¼
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	132/0	128/4	127/5	124/4	127/1	129/9	129/1
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.11	44.00	44.00	44.01
	Hourly Wage	3/0	2/11	2/10¾	2/9¾	2/10¾	2/11½	2/11¼
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	129/8	126/9	125/1	124/2	121/2	120/4	126/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.04	43.44	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.91
	Hourly Wage	2/11¼	2/10½	2/10½	2/9¾	2/9	2/8¾	2/10¾
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	Weekly Wage	125/9	126/9	131/6	131/6	121/11	122/8	126/11
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/10¼	2/10½	2/11¾	2/11¾	2/9¼	2/9½	2/10½
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	154/3	149/0	134/6	138/1	149/10	137/6	148/2
	Working Hours	42.49	41.91	42.28	43.52	42.76	43.35	42.39
	Hourly Wage	3/7½	3/6¾	3/2¼	3/2	3/6	3/2	3/6
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	130/0	127/2	126/9	126/1	123/2	129/2	128/1
	Working Hours	43.97	43.90	43.78	43.71	44.03	43.75	43.86
	Hourly Wage	2/11½	2/10¾	2/10¾	2/10½	2/9½	2/11½	2/11
VII. Building	Weekly Wage	142/11	152/11	133/5	125/6	128/1	131/9	141/10
	Working Hours	43.60	44.00	40.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.42
	Hourly Wage	3/3¼	3/5¾	3/4	2/10¼	2/11	3/0	3/3¼
VIII. Mining(*c*)	Weekly Wage	137/4	130/0	136/7	107/11	b139/8	124/3	134/6
	Working Hours	40.70	40.47	40.93	40.89	40.50	41.33	40.70
	Hourly Wage	3/4½	3/2½	3/4	2/7¾	3/5½	3/0	3/3¾
IX. Rail and Tram Services	Weekly Wage	133/7	132/6	130/9	124/1	122/9	122/10	130/10
	Working Hours	43.80	43.74	44.00	44.00	43.75	44.00	43.83
	Hourly Wage	3/0½	3/0½	2/11¾	2/9¾	2/9¾	2/9¾	2/11¾
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	126/8	119/2	118/6	114/9	118/6	114/8	121/7
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/10½	2/8½	2/8¼	2/7¼	2/8¼	2/7¼	2/9¼

(*a*) Weighted Average. (*b*) Excludes District allowances in the gold-mining industry.
(*c*) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State.

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups—*continued.*

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1946—continued.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	Weekly Wage(b)	132/2	132/8	129/3	130/8	131/3	130/10	131/6
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	129/3	127/3	133/4	124/1	126/8	131/5	129/0
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	Weekly Wage(c)	121/4	119/8	113/8	107/2	108/3	110/0	117/4
	Working Hours	44.00	44.33	44.00	44.00	44.80	44.00	44.17
	Hourly Wage(c)	2/9	2/8½	2/7	2/5½	2/5	2/6	2/7¾
XIV. Miscellaneous	Weekly Wage	125/9	124/1	119/2	114/11	116/3	117/4	122/6
	Working Hours	44.00	44.42	44.00	44.65	44.00	43.77	44.18
	Hourly Wage	2/10¼	2/9½	2/8½	2/7	2/7¾	2/8¼	2/9¼
All Groups(a)	Weekly Wage	130/11	128/11	128/0	121/4	125/7	125/2	128/6
All Groups except XI. and XII.(a)	Weekly Wage	131/3	129/1	126/0	119/11	125/0	122/3	128/2
	Working Hours	43.50	43.82	43.18	44.07	43.15	43.38	43.57
	Hourly Wage	3/0¼	2/11¼	2/11	2/8¾	2/10¾	2/9¾	2/11¼

(a) Weighted average. (b) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation where provided. (c) Includes the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

(iii) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1946. Particulars as at 31st December, 1945 appear in *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, No. 183, March, 1946 :—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1946.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	65/2	72/5	65/9	68/9	55/1	69/3	68/8
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/5¾	1/7¾	1/6	1/6¾	1/3	1/7	1/6¾
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	76/5	77/9	79/9	79/9	65/0	76/4	77/2
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/8¾	1/9¼	1/9¾	1/9¾	1/5¾	1/8¾	1/9
I., II., V., & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	75/4	80/10	69/9	71/5	..	65/9	77/3
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.77	..	44.00	43.99
	Hourly Wage	1/8½	1/10	1/7	1/7½	..	1/6	1/9
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	WeeklyWage(b)	70/10	77/2	74/7	68/2	69/9	66/4	72/9
	Working Hours	43.38	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	43.78
	Hourly Wage(b)	1/7½	1/9	1/8¼	1/6½	1/7	1/6	1/8
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	81/11	82/0	88/2	64/6	..	..	81/0
	Working Hours	44.00	45.00	44.00	44.00	..	..	44.36
	Hourly Wage	1/10¼	1/9¾	2/0	1/5½	..	..	1/10
All Groups(a)	Weekly Wage	76/0	78/6	79/5	72/10	67/2	72/7	76/9
	Working Hours	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
	Hourly Wage	1/8¾	1/9¼	1/9¾	1/7¾	1/6¼	1/7¾	1/9

(a) Weighted average. (b) Includes the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1946.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1946. The wages given in this table relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

State.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
RATES OF WAGE.													
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
N.S.Wales ..	44 1	43 11	51 5	56 2	94 0	102 11	96 7	105 4	118 3	121 3	121 4	121 10	130 11
Victoria ..	40 5	40 9	50 6	54 7	86 1	101 1	93 5	104 5	116 7	119 7	119 6	120 4	128 11
Queensland..	46 6	46 2	51 1	53 5	91 6	101 2	97 5	101 9	110 2	116 10	118 0	119 10	128 0
S. Australia	41 7	42 0	51 11	54 5	82 8	97 0	88 11	100 3	112 3	113 9	113 7	114 5	121 4
W. Australia	52 4	53 11	59 0	62 10	89 9	100 7	100 6	110 2	117 7	122 2	121 10	122 9	125 7
Tasmania ..	38 6	36 10	41 0	52 8	85 9	94 8	89 5	99 3	108 2	116 9	116 6	116 11	125 2
Australia..	43 5	43 5	51 3	55 7	89 10	101 2	95 3	104 3	115 8	119 5	119 6	120 4	128 6
INDEX-NUMBERS.													
(Base : Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)													
N.S. Wales..	861	858	1,003	1,096	1,835	2,007	1,885	2,056	2,308	2,366	2,367	2,377	2,554
Victoria ..	789	796	985	1,065	1,679	1,972	1,823	2,037	2,275	2,333	2,332	2,347	2,515
Queensland..	908	901	997	1,042	1,785	1,975	1,900	1,985	2,150	2,279	2,303	2,339	2,498
S. Australia..	811	819	1,013	1,062	1,613	1,896	1,735	1,957	2,189	2,219	2,216	2,233	2,368
W. Australia	1,022	1,052	1,152	1,226	1,751	1,963	1,962	2,149	2,294	2,383	2,377	2,395	2,450
Tasmania ..	751	719	799	1,028	1,674	1,848	1,745	1,937	2,111	2,279	2,273	2,282	2,442
Australia..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,858	2,034	2,257	2,329	2,332	2,348	2,507

8. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1946.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly wages payable in each industrial group in Australia. The wages relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
RATES OF WAGE.													
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
I. ..	52 5	52 3	57 8	59 6	95 1	104 10	100 1	108 5	118 2	121 0	121 1	121 4	129 2
II. ..	47 8	48 5	54 6	57 9	92 5	103 6	99 3	110 0	118 11	121 1	121 2	121 0	129 1
III. ..	38 2	44 7	50 9	55 8	89 3	100 10	96 9	106 1	114 3	117 8	118 0	118 9	126 9
IV. ..	36 8	36 3	50 3	53 0	86 5	99 6	93 2	105 7	116 10	119 7	119 0	118 11	126 11
V. ..	53 5	51 0	58 11	63 10	99 6	119 1	114 3	119 6	131 4	135 4	134 8	134 9	148 2
VI. ..	46 4	46 5	51 11	56 0	88 11	102 2	95 8	107 0	116 4	118 9	118 8	119 3	128 1
VII. ..	50 6	53 10	62 1	65 5	95 7	113 0	106 5	116 11	127 3	128 11	129 1	130 11	141 10
VIII. ..	58 1	54 8	61 2	65 2	103 10	110 7	109 1	115 1	123 9	126 6	126 11	127 2	134 6
IX. ..	50 10	52 4	57 0	59 8	93 1	105 2	96 6	108 8	118 9	121 9	121 10	122 9	130 10
X. ..	39 6	40 9	46 7	52 8	87 3	96 9	92 10	101 11	110 3	112 0	112 1	113 5	121 7
XI. ..	38 2	38 5	44 7	49 10	88 0	107 0	98 6	106 9	119 9	122 10	122 2	122 3	131 6
XII. ..	34 10	32 1	43 0	49 5	87 1	95 6	84 0	93 6	111 8	118 11	119 4	121 9	129 0
XIII. ..	32 10	30 8	45 5	47 11	80 6	92 6	89 11	97 10	107 5	109 8	109 9	109 9	117 4
XIV. ..	39 7	38 10	47 7	54 0	84 11	96 8	92 10	101 2	111 1	114 3	114 5	114 7	122 6
ALL GROUPS	43 5	43 5	51 3	55 7	89 10	101 2	95 3	104 3	115 8	119 5	119 6	120 4	128 6

Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—*continued.*

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
						INDEX-NUMBERS.							
						(*Base : Weighted average for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*) 1911 = 1,000.)							
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1,023	1,019	1,125	1,161	1,855	2,046	1,953	2,116	2,306	2,362	2,363	2,368	2,520
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	931	945	1,064	1,127	1,803	2,019	1,936	2,147	2,321	2,363	2,364	2,361	2,519
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	745	871	991	1,085	1,742	1,967	1,888	2,071	2,229	2,297	2,303	2,316	2,473
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	716	708	981	1,034	1,687	1,942	1,817	2,060	2,280	2,334	2,321	2,321	2,476
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1,043	996	1,149	1,246	1,941	2,323	2,229	2,332	2,562	2,640	2,627	2,630	2,891
VI. Other Manufacturing	904	907	1,013	1,093	1,736	1,994	1,867	2,088	2,270	2,316	2,315	2,326	2,499
VII. Building	986	1,050	1,213	1,276	1,865	2,205	2,076	2,282	2,484	2,516	2,518	2,555	2,768
VIII. Mining	1,134	1,067	1,194	1,272	2,026	2,157	2,142	2,245	2,415	2,468	2,477	2,482	2,624
IX. Rail and Tram Services	992	1,021	1,113	1,165	1,816	2,052	1,884	2,121	2,316	2,376	2,377	2,396	2,553
X. Other Land Transport	772	795	910	1,026	1,702	1,888	1,812	1,989	2,151	2,186	2,188	2,213	2,372
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	745	751	871	972	1,716	2,087	1,922	2,082	2,336	2,397	2,383	2,385	2,566
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.	680	627	839	965	1,699	1,863	1,639	1,825	2,179	2,321	2,328	2,376	2,517
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	598	887	935	1,571	1,804	1,755	1,908	2,095	2,140	2,142	2,142	2,289
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	773	759	929	1,054	1,656	1,886	1,811	1,974	2,167	2,230	2,232	2,236	2,390
All Groups ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,858	2,034	2,257	2,329	2,332	2,348	2,507

9. **Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914-1946.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States. (*a*)

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			RATES OF WAGE.				
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th April, 1914 ..	1 2	1 1¾	1 1½	1 1¾	1 4¼	1 1	1 2
31st December, 1921	2 1¼	2 0¼	2 2	1 10¾	2 1	1 11½	2 0¾
" " 1929	2 4	2 2½	2 4	2 1¼	2 2¾	2 0½	2 3
" " 1935	1 11¾	1 9	2 1	1 8½	1 11½	1 9¼	1 10¾
" " 1936	2 0¼	1 10	2 1	1 9	2 0¾	1 9¾	1 11¼
" " 1937	2 2¼	1 11½	2 2¼	1 10¼	2 1¼	1 11	2 0¾
" " 1938	2 3	2 0¼	2 3	1 10¾	2 3½	1 11¼	2 1¾
" " 1939	2 3½	2 1½	2 3½	1 11½	2 4	2 0	2 2½
" " 1940	2 4½	2 2¾	2 3¾	2 1	2 5	2 1¼	2 3½
" " 1941	2 5¾	2 5	2 5¼	2 3¼	2 7¼	2 3	2 5¼
" " 1942	2 8¾	2 8¼	2 7¼	2 6	2 9¼	2 6½	2 8
" " 1943	2 9½	2 8¾	2 8¼	2 6½	2 10¼	2 7½	2 8¾
" " 1944	2 9½	2 8¾	2 8½	2 6¾	2 10	2 7½	2 8¾
" " 1945	2 9½	2 9	2 8¾	2 6½	2 10¼	2 7½	2 9
" " 1946	3 0¼	2 11¼	2 11	2 8¾	2 10¾	2 9¾	2 11¼

(*a*) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	INDEX-NUMBERS.						
	(*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (13.96*d.*) *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)						
30th April, 1914 ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
,, ,, 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
,, ,, 1935	1,703	1,496	1,782	1,476	1,689	1,519	1,623
,, ,, 1936	1,731	1,567	1,787	1,500	1,776	1,552	1,670
,, ,, 1937	1,878	1,676	1,875	1,602	1,804	1,643	1,779
,, ,, 1938	1,935	1,741	1,934	1,638	1,968	1,671	1,840
,, ,, 1939	1,963	1,834	1,979	1,692	2,001	1,717	1,903
,, ,, 1940	2,038	1,920	1,986	1,796	2,080	1,805	1,973
,, ,, 1941	2,138	2,071	2,092	1,956	2,240	1,938	2,098
,, ,, 1942	2,339	2,302	2,232	2,153	2,381	2,165	2,295
,, ,, 1943	2,401	2,342	2,307	2,183	2,448	2,260	2,352
,, ,, 1944	2,405	2,343	2,329	2,173	2,443	2,254	2,355
,, ,, 1945	2,408	2,355	2,347	2,192	2,446	2,255	2,365
,, ,, 1946	2,593	2,533	2,509	2,339	2,491	2,423	2,529

10. **Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1946.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th April, 1914 ..	0 6½	0 6¾	0 6½	0 5¾	0 9¼	0 6	0 6¾
31st December, 1921	1 1	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¾	1 2¾	1 0	1 0¾
,, ,, 1929	1 2¾	1 2½	1 3	1 1½	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
,, ,, 1935	1 0¼	0 11¾	1 1	0 11½	1 1	0 11¾	1 0
,, ,, 1936	1 0½	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¼	1 1½	1 0	1 0½
,, ,, 1937	1 1¾	1 1¼	1 2	1 0¼	1 1½	1 0¾	1 1½
,, ,, 1938	1 2¼	1 1½	1 2½	1 0½	1 2¼	1 1¼	1 1¾
,, ,, 1939	1 2½	1 2	1 3	1 1	1 2¾	1 1½	1 2¼
,, ,, 1940	1 3	1 2½	1 3¼	1 1¾	1 3¾	1 2½	1 2¾
,, ,, 1941	1 3¾	1 3¾	1 4¼	1 3	1 4½	1 3½	1 3¾
,, ,, 1942	1 5½	1 5¾	1 6	1 4½	1 5½	1 4¾	1 5½
,, ,, 1943	1 6½	1 7	1 7	1 4¾	1 6¼	1 5¼	1 6¾
,, ,, 1944	1 7½	1 8	1 8¼	1 5¾	1 6	1 6¾	1 7½
,, ,, 1945	1 7½	1 8	1 8¼	1 6	1 6	1 6¾	1 7½
,, ,, 1946	1 8¾	1 9¼	1 9¾	1 7¾	1 6¼	1 7¾	1 9

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			INDEX-NUMBERS.				
			(*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (6.64*d.*), *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)				
30th April, 1914 ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1935	1,848	1,758	1,971	1,721	1,947	1,759	1,818
" " 1936	1,875	1,883	1,985	1,700	2,018	1,803	1,881
" " 1937	2,066	1,985	2,107	1,839	1,990	1,938	2,017
" " 1938	2,134	2,050	2,196	1,878	2,164	1,991	2,084
" " 1939	2,193	2,107	2,267	1,952	2,217	2,032	2,145
" " 1940	2,256	2,184	2,298	2,069	2,361	2,181	2,220
" " 1941	2,387	2,387	2,444	2,274	2,477	2,324	2,387
" " 1942	2,630	2,657	2,726	2,473	2,636	2,517	2,642
" " 1943	2,798	2,869	2,866	2,514	2,730	2,599	2,806
" " 1944	2,934	3,024	3,042	2,685	2,703	2,813	2,952
" " 1945	2,935	3,024	3,042	2,714	2,709	2,809	2,958
" " 1946	3,131	3,209	3,262	2,991	2,759	2,983	3,149

11. **Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1946. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) : Adult Males, States.(*a*)

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			HOURS OF LABOUR.				
30th April, 1914 ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
31st December, 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1935	44.18	46.69	43.69	46.63	45.48	46.75	45.26
" " 1936	44.08	46.41	43.69	46.55	45.30	46.33	45.09
" " 1937	44.07	46.22	43.68	46.57	45.25	46.24	45.03
" " 1938	44.01	45.75	43.67	46.31	44.34	46.00	44.82
" " 1939	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
" " 1940	43.70	44.28	43.46	45.23	44.09	44.92	44.04
" " 1941	43.68	44.12	43.43	44.49	43.13	44.42	43.83
" " 1942	43.52	43.94	43.32	44.25	43.15	43.51	43.65
" " 1943	43.52	43.94	43.18	44.21	43.15	43.37	43.62
" " 1944	43.50	43.91	43.18	44.21	43.15	43.39	43.61
" " 1945	43.50	43.91	43.18	44.07	43.15	43.38	43.59
" " 1946	43.50	43.82	43.18	44.07	43.15	43.38	43.57

(*a*) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime): Adult Males, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base: Weighted Average for Australia* (48.93), *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,010	997	997	993	976	994	1,000
31st December, 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1935	903	954	893	953	929	955	925
" " 1936	901	948	893	951	926	947	922
" " 1937	901	945	893	952	925	945	920
" " 1938	899	935	893	946	906	940	916
" " 1939	898	912	888	937	906	926	905
" " 1940	893	905	888	924	901	918	900
" " 1941	893	902	888	909	881	908	896
" " 1942	889	898	885	904	882	889	892
" " 1943	889	898	882	904	882	886	891
" " 1944	889	897	882	904	882	887	891
" " 1945	889	897	882	901	882	887	891
" " 1946	889	896	882	901	882	887	890

12. **Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1946. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime): Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
HOURS OF LABOUR.							
30th April, 1914 ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
31st December, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
" " 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1935	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1936	43.93	44.94	44.03	46.03	45.57	45.24	44.60
" " 1937	43.92	44.76	44.03	46.02	45.57	45.24	44.52
" " 1938	43.88	44.63	44.03	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.44
" " 1939	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36
" " 1940	43.88	44.19	44.01	45.47	44.00	44.00	44.15
" " 1941	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1942	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1943	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1944	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1945	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1946	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03

Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime): Adult Females, States—*continued.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base: Weighted average for Australia* (49.08) 30*th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,005	989	1,005	1,005	992	1,034	1,000
31st December, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
" " 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1935	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1936	895	916	897	938	928	922	909
" " 1937	895	912	897	938	928	922	907
" " 1938	894	909	897	936	925	919	905
" " 1939	894	905	897	936	925	919	904
" " 1940	894	900	897	926	896	896	900
" " 1941	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1942	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1943	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1944	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1945	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1946	894	900	896	896	896	896	897

13. **Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Wages are said to be *nominal* when they represent the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* or *real* when expressed in terms of their equivalent purchasing power, that is, their purchasing power over some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A" series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of the "C" series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. The "C" series covers food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements. As the computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938, real wages to the end of 1937 are measured in terms of their purchasing power over both the "A" series regimen and the "C" series regimen* in the following tables and over the "C" series only for the subsequent years.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1901 to 1946.*—The following table shows for the period 1901 to 1946 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

* For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see pages 35 and 36.

Nominal Wage Index-Numbers: Adult Males, States.

(*Base: Weighted Average Weekly Wage for Australia,* 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
N.S.Wales ..	858	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,829	1,874	1,920	2,024	2,210	2,357	2,365	2,367	2,431
Victoria ..	796	985	1,062	1,803	1,964	1,755	1,808	1,865	1,984	2,172	2,330	2,323	2,340	2,403
Queensland ..	901	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,854	1,885	1,903	1,981	2,091	2,207	2,288	2,326	2,384
S. Australia ..	819	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,688	1,725	1,764	1,897	2,065	2,212	2,212	2,228	2,285
W. Australia	1,052	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,876	1,956	1,999	2,106	2,215	2,349	2,368	2,389	2,424
Tasmania ..	719	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,718	1,738	1,787	1,895	2,057	2,196	2,268	2,273	2,336
Australia ..	848	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,799	1,846	1,889	1,997	2,164	2,309	2,326	2,339	2,400

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States*—1901–1946.—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following tables the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 which are based on nominal rates of wage current at the end of December may be taken as substantially accurate since the movement in wages during the course of any one year prior to 1914 was comparatively slight.

Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work): Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "A" series regimen.

(*Base: Weighted average real wage in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
N.S.Wales..	961	973	906	1,079	1,089	1,050	1,107	1,160	1,150	1,138	1,101	1,095	1,090	1,107
Victoria ..	915	1,037	961	1,038	1,120	1,084	1,158	1,162	1,126	1,139	1,114	1,092	1,075	1,099
Queensland	1,172	1,090	1,038	1,244	1,236	1,220	1,317	1,345	1,376	1,417	1,377	1,323	1,261	1,237
S. Australia	948	957	929	1,027	1,089	1,067	1,166	1,178	1,133	1,152	1,144	1,149	1,143	1,151
W. Australia	1,024	1,023	1,070	1,139	1,156	1,143	1,229	1,232	1,212	1,246	1,221	1,260	1,251	1,253
Tasmania ..	827	838	942	977	1,099	1,064	1,111	1,104	1,067	1,094	1,086	1,099	1,094	1,088
Australia	964	1,000	948	1,076	1,115	1,082	1,152	1,185	1,168	1,178	1,148	1,135	1,121	1,133

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work): Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.

(*Base: Weighted average real wage in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
N.S.Wales ..	..	925	1,073	1,159	1,130	1,207	1,207	1,187	1,187	1,204	1,234	1,247	1,249	1,258
Victoria ..	..	954	1,084	1,188	1,164	1,180	1,180	1,167	1,187	1,190	1,233	1,234	1,243	1,620
Queensland..	..	1,022	1,227	1,296	1,290	1,311	1,306	1,264	1,240	1,221	1,241	1,288	1,307	1,314
S. Australia	..	914	1,034	1,106	1,099	1,146	1,147	1,136	1,158	1,159	1,209	1,214	1,218	1,229
W. Australia	..	1,043	1,096	1,155	1,152	1,281	1,308	1,293	1,279	1,259	1,282	1,292	1,300	1,296
Tasmania ..	..	902	984	1,123	1,108	1,167	1,153	1,139	1,142	1,150	1,184	1,237	1,237	1,237
Australia..	1,000	948	1,087	1,172	1,151	1,209	1,211	1,190	1,194	1,196	1,231	1,246	1,252	1,263

In the above tables the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia*—1901–1946. In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the "A" and "C" series. These are

obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work). (a)

(*Base: Weighted average real wage in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		"A" Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	"C" Series (All Items).	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1901.. ..	848	880	..	964	..
1910.. ..	955	970	..	985	..
1911.. ..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1912.. ..	1,051	1,101	..	955	..
1913.. ..	1,076	1,104	..	975	..
1914.. ..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1915.. ..	1,092	1,278	1,297	854	842
1916.. ..	1,144	1,324	1,319	864	867
1917.. ..	1,226	1,318	1,406	930	872
1918.. ..	1,270	1,362	1,501	932	846
1919.. ..	1,370	1,510	1,695	907	808
1920.. ..	1,627	1,785	1,935	911	841
1921.. ..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1922.. ..	1,801	1,600	1,619	1,126	1,112
1923.. ..	1,805	1,700	1,664	1,062	1,085
1924.. ..	1,840	1,681	1,637	1,095	1,124
1925.. ..	1,861	1,722	1,654	1,081	1,125
1926.. ..	1,914	1,786	1,677	1,072	1,141
1927.. ..	1,946	1,766	1,662	1,102	1,171
1928.. ..	1,963	1,760	1,675	1,115	1,172
1929.. ..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1930.. ..	1,939	1,683	1,618	1,152	1,198
1931.. ..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932.. ..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933.. ..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934.. ..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935.. ..	1,612	1,420	1,380	1,135	1,169
1936.. ..	1,638	1,461	1,409	1,121	1,162
1937.. ..	1,707	1,507	1,448	1,133	1,178
1938.. ..	1,799	(b)	1,488	(b)	1,209
1939.. ..	1,846	(b)	1,526	(b)	1,211
1940.. ..	1,889	(b)	1,588	(b)	1,190
1941.. ..	1,997	(b)	1,673	(b)	1,194
1942.. ..	2,164	(b)	1,809	(b)	1,196
1943.. ..	2,309	(b)	1,876	(b)	1,231
1944.. ..	2,326	(b)	1,867	(b)	1,246
1945.. ..	2,339	(b)	1,868	(b)	1,252
1946.. ..	2,400	(b)	1,900	(b)	1,263

(a) As to the effect in abnormal periods, see page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (b) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the "A" series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the purchasing power of wages under both the "A" and the "C" series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. under the "C" series.

As retail prices remained practically stationary in 1945, while nominal wages rose, the *effective* wage index-number rose from 1,246 to 1,252 under the "C" series. A rise of 1.7 per cent, in the "C" series in 1946 was more than counterbalanced by a rise of 2.6 per cent. in the nominal wage index, resulting in an increase in the effective wage index from 1,252 to 1,263.

14. **Productive Activity.**—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in series of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production.

The following table shows the total recorded value of production valued as in the principal markets as ascertained from various sources during the years specified :—

Estimated Gross Value of Australian Production.

(*Recorded Industries.*)

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Mining.	Manufacturing. (a)	Total.
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1913 ..	46,162	63,146	21,682	6,626	25,594	57,674	220,884
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1916 ..	61,255	83,054	27,931	6,062	23,192	60,502	261,996
1920–21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,675	101,778	390,644
1921–22 ..	81,890	75,054	44,417	10,519	20,029	112,517	344,426
1922–23 ..	84,183	97,127	43,542	11,124	20,281	123,188	379,445
1923–24 ..	81,166	110,216	42,112	11,866	22,184	132,732	400,276
1924–25 ..	107,163	127,301	45,190	12,357	24,592	137,977	454,580
1925–26 ..	89,267	113,556	48,278	12,784	24,529	143,256	431,670
1926–27 ..	98,295	111,716	46,980	12,790	23,939	153,634	447,354
1927–28 ..	84,328	124,554	50,261	12,181	23,015	158,562	452,901
1928–29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,539	159,759	447,805
1929–30 ..	77,109	84,563	49,398	11,371	17,912	149,184	389,537
1930–31 ..	70,500	69,499	43,067	8,313	15,361	112,966	319,706
1931–32 ..	74,489	61,540	41,478	7,703	13,352	106,456	305,018
1932–33 ..	75,562	64,851	39,622	8,470	15,583	114,136	318,224
1933–34 ..	70,731	95,613	40,306	9,605	17,608	123,355	357,218
1934–35 ..	68,587	74,556	44,763	10,856	19,949	137,638	356,349
1935–36 ..	75,388	91,286	47,533	11,424	23,248	155,891	404,770
1936–37 ..	91,403	105,499	49,886	11,765	27,381	170,811	456,745
1937–38 ..	93,229	100,794	57,641	14,755	32,434	188,061	486,914
1938–39 ..	76,851	84,895	60,404	14,634	32,463	195,746	464,993
1939–40 ..	95,784	104,972	62,070	15,347	36,839	212,488	527,500
1940–41(b)	70,406	110,959	62,629	17,179	40,003	248,751	549,927
1941–42(b)	94,778	120,000	64,731	18,671	41,257	306,426	645,863
1942–43(b)	112,649	132,556	73,644	19,393	38,462	341,106	717,810
1943–44(b)	116,488	137,293	77,450	18,105	33,741	355,223	738,300
1944–45(b)	106,803	125,359	80,316	22,035	33,515	350,151	718,179
1945–46(b)	143,524	113,644	84,478	24,985	32,438	339,421	738,490

(a) Value added in process of manufacture. (b) Subject to revision.

In the absence of a satisfactory measure of the total *quantity* of recorded production, the retail price index-numbers have been applied to the value of production, in the same manner as they have been applied to nominal wages, to measure their relative purchasing power. The results may be taken to indicate the purchasing power in retail prices of the things produced and for convenience will hereafter be called *real* production. Owing to the discontinuance in 1938 of the "A" series retail price index-number it is not now possible to continue the measurement on the basis of this series.

Two tables are given :—The first (I.) shows *real* production *per head of population*, but any deductions therefrom must take into account the following considerations. The production considered is material production only, and takes no account of services. As civilization advances, material production becomes less important relative to services, and a smaller proportion of the population is engaged in such production. For example, the use of the motor car, the cinema and wireless is comparatively recent, and in connexion therewith a much larger number of people is employed in services than in material production. It follows, therefore, that material production per head of population will not measure accurately the progress of productive efficiency, but will tend to give too low a value. Unemployment, of course, would also depress it.

A better measure is given by *real* production *per person engaged* in material production. The second table (II.) attempts to give this. The result will give a better measure of productive efficiency, but will not take into account the effect of unemployment, though the index may be somewhat depressed by short time and rationing.

The two tables tell different stories. Before unemployment became severe in 1930, *real* production per head (as shown in the last column of the first table) had remained substantially steady with minor fluctuations since 1906. Whatever gain had been made in productive efficiency had been largely counterbalanced by the gradual change over from production of goods to production of services. Coincident with the heavy increase in unemployment between the years 1930 and 1933, the maximum being reached in 1932, the index-number fell sharply from its normal level of about 100 to 78 in 1930–31. This would imply a fall in average *real* income of nearly one-fourth from the normal level taking unemployment into account. Apart from a slight recession in 1934–35 due to a drop in wool values the index-number rose continuously from 1931–32 onwards; the pre-depression level was reached in 1935–36 and the peak of 1924–25 was exceeded in 1937–38. This upward movement was interrupted in 1938–39 1940–41 and 1944–45. In 1943–44, *real* production per head of opulation reached a peak higher than any previously attained. In 1944–45, there was a recession in agricultural and pastoral production and manufacturing activity and as the retail price index showed little change, *real* production per head of population declined by 3.8 per cent. In 1945–46 the gross value of recorded production slightly exceeded the highest output previously reached in 1943–44, but owing to the increase in the retail price index *real* production per head of population, although 1.6 per cent. higher than the previous year, was 2.3 per cent. lower than in 1943–44.

The index number of *real* production per person engaged (as given in the last column of the second table (II.)) shows on the other hand, an appreciable upward tendency. It rose steeply during the 1914–19 War,

as might have been expected, fell somewhat after the war, and recovered again. In 1929–30 the fall was substantial, due partly to the lag in the fall of retail prices The index-number increased during the next four years to 126, only to fall again in 1934–35 with the fall in wool prices. During the following four pre-war years a fall was recorded for one year only (1938–39). During the war-years up to and including 1944–45 increases were recorded except in 1940–41 and 1944–45. The index-number of 148 for 1943–44 represents a record high level, and an increase of over 18 per cent. compared with 1938–39. In 1945–46 the index-number increased slightly and was over 16 per cent. higher than in 1938–39. This figure for *real* production per person engaged implies a high *real* wage for *those in employment*, and is consistent with available information concerning rate of *effective* or *real* wages, which has maintained in recent years the high level reached in the years 1927 to 1929.

I.—Production per Head of Population.

Year.	Gross Value of Material Production.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (*a*) 1911 = 1,000.		*Real* Production per head of population (1911 = 100) measured in purchasing power over regimen of—	
	Total.	Per head of population.					
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911 = 100	"A" Series.	"C" Series.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
	£'000.	£					
1906 ..	147,043	35.9	87	902	..	97	..
1911 ..	188,359	41.2	100	1,000	(1,000)	100	100
1913 ..	220,884	45.1	110	1,104	..	99	..
1914 ..	213,552	43.0	104	1,140	1,140	92	92
1916 ..	261,996	53.3	129	1,324	1,319	98	98
1919–20..	343,697	64.9	158	1,624	1,695	97	93
1920–21..	390,644	72.2	175	1,821	1,935	96	91
1921–22..	344,426	62.5	152	1,600	1,680	95	90
1922–23..	379,445	67.4	163	1,642	1,638	100	100
1923–24..	400,276	69.6	169	1,714	1,663	99	102
1924–25..	454,580	77.3	188	1,690	1,639	111	115
1925–26..	431,670	72.0	175	1,766	1,673	99	104
1926–27..	447,354	73.1	178	1,763	1,663	101	107
1927–28..	452,901	72.5	176	1,776	1,676	99	105
1928–29..	447,805	70.5	171	1,785	1,693	96	101
1929–30..	389,537	60.6	147	1,783	1,688	83	87
1930–31..	319,706	49.2	120	1,574	1,528	76	78
1931–32..	305,018	46.5	113	1,432	1,406	79	80
1932–33..	318,224	48.2	117	1,358	1,344	86	87
1933–34..	357,218	53.7	130	1,365	1,344	96	97
1934–35..	356,349	53.2	129	1,399	1,366	92	95
1935–36..	404,770	60.0	146	1,437	1,392	101	105
1936–37..	456,745	67.1	163	1,489	1,431	110	114
1937–38..	486,914	70.9	172	1,530	1,467	112	117
1938–39..	464,993	67.1	163	(*b*)	1,512	(*b*)	108
1939–40..	527,500	75.4	183	(*b*)	1,545	(*b*)	119
1940–41..	549,927	78.4	190	(*b*)	1,634	(*b*)	117
1941–42..	645,863	90.1	219	(*b*)	1,730	(*b*)	126
1942–43..	717,810	99.8	242	(*b*)	1,864	(*b*)	130
1943–44..	738,300	101.7	247	(*b*)	1,868	(*b*)	132
1944–45..	718,179	97.9	238	(*b*)	1,867	(*b*)	127
1945–46..	738,490	99.6	242	(*b*)	1,881	(*b*)	129

(*a*) For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see pages 35 and 36. (*b*) Not available.

II.—Production per Person Engaged.

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production.(a)	Value of Material production per person engaged in production.(a)		*Real* Production per person engaged (1911 = 100) measured in retail purchasing power over regimen of—(b)	
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911 = 100.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
	'000.	£			
1906.. ..	659	223	87	96	..
1911.. ..	728	257	100	100	100
1913.. ..	756	290	113	102	..
1914.. ..	733	289	113	99	99
1916.. ..	685	381	148	112	112
1920–21 ..	760	510	199	109	103
1921–22 ..	775	441	172	107	102
1922–23 ..	793	475	185	113	113
1923–24 ..	810	491	191	111	115
1924–25 ..	826	547	213	126	130
1925–26 ..	831	515	201	114	120
1926–27 ..	841	527	205	116	123
1927–28 ..	838	536	209	118	125
1928–29 ..	830	536	209	117	123
1929–30 ..	803	482	187	105	110
1930–31 ..	728	431	168	108	112
1931–32 ..	741	411	160	112	114
1932–33 ..	781	407	158	117	118
1933–34 ..	815	437	170	125	126
1934–35 ..	862	412	160	115	117
1935–36 ..	901	448	174	121	125
1936–37 ..	930	491	191	128	134
1937–38 ..	961	504	196	128	134
1938–39 ..	962	481	187	(c)	124
1939–40 ..	979	536	209	(c)	135
1940–41 ..	1,016	538	210	(c)	128
1941–42 ..	1,029	624	243	(c)	140
1942–43 ..	1,023	700	272	(c)	146
1943–44 ..	1,042	708	275	(c)	148
1944–45 ..	1,041	687	267	(c)	143
1945–46 ..	1,058	693	271	(c)	144

(a) *Vide* following explanatory remarks. (b) Derived through Retail Price indexes shown in previous table. For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see pages 35 and 36. (c) Not available.

The data for the preceding table are not complete. The numbers engaged in timber-getting are not accurately known, so that the value of production on this account, and the corresponding persons engaged, are both left out of account. Further, the information about women engaged in primary production is unsatisfactory, so that males alone are counted in primary industries. In manufacturing, the numbers are converted into equivalent male workers on the basis of relative wages for male and female workers. The column headed "number engaged" is, therefore, rather an index than the absolute number of individuals occupied in material production, but as an index, it should be accurate enough to give a satisfactory index of production per person engaged.

§ 3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

1. **The Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The "basic" wage is determined by industrial tribunals in Australia operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the industrial legislation of New South Wales*, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, the same Wages Board system exists, but by amendments of the Factories Act, operative from 17th October, 1934 (*vide* p. 101), Wages Boards are obliged to adopt the same rates as those determined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for similar industries.

As the power of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court is limited by the Commonwealth Constitution to the settlement, by conciliation and arbitration, of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State, no similar provision is to be found in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. In practice, the Court does declare a Commonwealth basic wage and uses the wage so declared as a basis for all awards made by it in the exercise of its jurisdiction. That is, upon a new basic wage being declared, the awards made in the settlement of all inter-State industrial disputes are re-opened and amended accordingly.

(ii) *Acts in Force.*—The acts in force providing for the determination of a "basic" wage are as follows:—

(*a*) Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1947†

(*b*) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1940–1947.

(*c*) Victoria—Factories and Shops Act, 1928–1945.

(*d*) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1945.

(*e*) South Australia—The Industrial Code 1920–1943; Economic Stability Act 1946.

(*f*) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1941.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the "Harvester

* *See* p. 100 for modification of provision.
† See limitations mentioned second para. above.

Judgment " by reason of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works.* The rate declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for " a family of about five† ", and was generally referred to as the " Harvester " wage. According to a rough allocation by the Judge, the constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (*d*) of the Excise Tariff 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia " under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable." The President discussed at length the meaning of " fair and reasonable ", and stated: " These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than 'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community.'" This may therefore be taken as the original criterion adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in the fixation of its " basic "‡ wage.

The President in his judgment stated: " My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day."

The " Harvester " basic rate was adopted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for incorporation in its awards and practically the same rates continued until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A " series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-numbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns

* 2 C.A.R., pp. 1–38.

† The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35–39 in the wage and salary earning group (excluding unemployed) was 3.00 children of all ages, and some such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under sixteen years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under fourteen years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80. *See* however, page 84 for Court's interpretation in 1940 Basic Wage Inquiry of the real basis of this wage.

‡ The term " minimum " wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry, and is either equal to or greater than the " basic " wage.

were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the table 1,000 as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain "loadings" were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.*

In 1922 an amount known as the "Powers' 3s."† was added as a general "loading" to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing power as disclosed by the "A" series retail price index-numbers, and of basing the adjustments on the index-number for the quarter in place of that of the previous calendar year or the year ended the preceding quarter.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on the 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard was the subject of much discussion during the period of its operation, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the 1914–19 War hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the fact that wages throughout Australia were being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission, however, was appointed in 1919 to assess a basic wage, but although its recommendations were not carried out (owing mainly to the considerable advance the amounts recommended represented over current rates and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates, the two Reports of the Commission of 1920 and 1921 comprise a most valuable contribution on the subject of the basic wage in Australia, and a *résumé* of its findings is given on page 106.

* As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

† Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case (16 C.A.R., p. 32).

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from the 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.*

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1934.—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 30th April, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, operative from 1st May, 1934,† full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report. The basic wage declared on this occasion (subsequently referred to as the "Needs Basic Wage, 1934") was as follows for the six capital cities :—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Sydney	67	0	Adelaide ..	64	0
Melbourne	64	0	Perth	66	0
Brisbane	61	0	Hobart	67	0

Six Capital cities, 65s.

The following is a comparison for the capital cities of the basic rates granted by the judgment and those ruling under previous practices of the Court :—

Comparison of Basic Rates awarded for Capital Cities.

City	New Rates Awarded 1st May 1934, "C" Series.	Rates being paid prior to 1st May, 1934.(a)		Increase or Decrease.			
				Over "D" Series.		Over "A" Series.	
		Under "D" Series less 10 per cent. "cut".	Under "A" Series (Full).	Full.	Less 10 per cent. "cut".	Full.	Less 10 per cent. "cut".
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney	67 0	66 11	72 0	−7 4	0 1	−5 0	+2 2
Melbourne ..	64 0	63 4	67 6	−6 4	0 8	−3 6	+3 3
Brisbane ..	61 0	59 4	62 0	−4 11	1 8	−1 0	+5 2
Adelaide ..	64 0	60 2	63 0	−2 10	3 10	+1 0	+7 4
Perth	66 0	59 3	64 0	+0 2	6 9	+2 0	+8 5
Hobart	67 0	64 10	70 0	−5 0	2 2	−3 0	+4 0
Six Capitals ..	65 0	63 9	68 0	−5 10	1 3	−3 0	+3 10

(a) Calculated to nearest 6d., and including "Powers' 3s." or its equivalent.

NOTE.—For explanation of the "A", "C" and "D" series *see* pp. 35 to 37 of this Report.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" and the "D" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by

* 30 C.A.R., p. 1; 31 C.A.R., p. 305. † 33 C.A.R. p. 144.

the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates in Column 2 for the capital cities, on the basis of their respective index-numbers. In effect the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that previously paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers" 3s., and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

In view, however, of the fact that the vast majority of workers affected were being paid the rates shown in Column 3 under the "D" Series Retail Price Index (which rates allowed for the 10 per cent. "Cut" in wages), the differences compared with the *full* basic wages standard established by the Court from 1st May, 1933, by means of this Series were as shown in Column 5. The *full* rates under this Series may be obtained by adding one-ninth to the rates in Column 3.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1937.—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined Unions for an increase in the basic wage. The Unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June. The chief features of the judgment were*:

(*a*) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined by the 1934 judgment. The latter was referred to in the judgment as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows :—

City.	"Needs" Basic Wage.	"Loading."	Total Basic Wage.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney	72 0	6 0	78 0
Melbourne	69 0	6 0	75 0
Brisbane	68 0	6 0	74 0
Adelaide	68 0 (*a*)	4 0	72 0
Perth	70 0 (*a*)	4 0	74 0
Hobart	70 0 (*b*)	4 0	74 0
Six Capitals	70 0	5 0	75 0

(*a*) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.
(*b*) 1s. less was being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive "loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

* 37 C.A.R., p. 583.

The "loadings" came into operation in two instalments, viz., from the beginning of the first pay-periods commencing in July and October, 1937.

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(*b*) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(*c*) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(*d*) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the "C" series to a special "Court" series based upon the "C" series, for an explanation of which see page 35.

(*e*) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (See No. 28, p. 77).

(iv) "*Lag*" *in Adjustments*.—The Commonwealth Court on 19th December, 1939, heard an application by the unions that the date of adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with the variations in the "Court" Series of index-numbers be brought nearer to the period upon which the variation was based. In a judgment delivered on the same day, the Court directed that such adjustments be made one month earlier. The effect, therefore, was to make future adjustments operative from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in a February, a May, an August or a November.

(v) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1940.—On 5th August, 1940, the Full Court commenced the hearing of an application by the combined unions for an increase in the existing basic wage by raising the value of 1,000 (the base of the "C" series index upon which the "Court" series are based) from 81s. to 100s. per week, and the abolition of the present "Prosperity" loadings, which would be regarded as incorporated in the new rate mentioned. The hearing was interrupted for a period of ten weeks owing to the serious illness of the Chief Judge (The Hon. Sir George S. Beeby) but was completed on 28th November, 1940. Judgment was delivered on 7th February, 1941, wherein the Court unanimously refused to grant any increase, and decided that the application should not be dismissed but stood over for further consideration after 30th June, 1941. The application was refused mainly owing to the uncertainty of the economic outlook under existing war conditions.*

In regard to the popular idea that the basic wage of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was identified with a specific family unit, the Chief Judge made the following statements to clarify the position: "The Court has always conceded the 'needs' of an average family should be kept in mind in fixing a basic wage. But it has never as the result of its own inquiry specifically declared what is an average family or what is the cost of a regimen of food, clothing, shelter and miscellaneous items necessary to maintain it in frugal comfort, or that a basic wage should give effect to any such finding. In the end economic possibilities have always been the determining factor . . . . What should be sought is the independent

* 44 C.A.R., p. 41.

ascertainment and prescription of the highest basic wage that can be sustained by the total of industry in all its primary, secondary and ancillary forms. That, no doubt, is the object, but the adoption of something like the real average family as the unit to be provided for is not without its use in the attainment of that object. There is no clear means of measuring the general wage-paying capacity of the total industry of a country. All that can be done is to approximate, and one of the methods of approximation is to find out the actual wage upon which well-situated labourers are at the time maintaining the average family unit. We may be pardoned for saying that Mr. Justice Higgins very wisely used this criterion in the Harvester case.* Moreover if the average-sized families of such well-situated labourers have become accustomed to enjoy, and do actually enjoy, a certain standard of living in our community, it may reasonably be assumed that such a standard for all labourers is probably not beyond the capacity of industry in general to provide. Therefore, in determining the amount of a living or basic wage there is sound economic warranty for the ascertainment of the real average family unit and of the cost of providing something like the standard which such families of well-employed labourers have already reached. But obviously, if the real average family unit is departed from, or a standard is sought for the likely maintenance of which experience gives no reason to hope, then an unrealizable wage-level may be ordained . . . . It may be that in the light of past experience the Court should conduct a specific inquiry as to the cost of living of an average family, but under war conditions, such an inquiry would be futile. More than ever before wage fixation is controlled by the economic outlook."

The Chief Judge further stated, " I was impressed by the new evidence and argument as to the inadequacy of the earnings of the lower paid wage-earners with families. On our accepted standards of living, looking at it from the needs point of view only, I regard the present basic wage as adequate for a family unit of three persons, but think it offers only a meagre existence for a family unit of four. When the unit gets beyond four hardship is often experienced." He suggested that the more logical system would be to grade the basic wage according to family responsibilities and that, notwithstanding the increase in aggregate wages, the benefits resulting from a reapportionment of national income to increase the wages of those with more than one dependent child would more than offset the inflationary tendency of provision for a comprehensive scheme of child endowment, and that if a scheme of this nature were established, as recently announced by the Commonwealth Government† future fixations of the basic wage would be greatly simplified. The other two Judges (O'Mara *J.*, and Piper *J.*) in separate judgments agreed with that of the Chief Judge, particularly in regard to the need for a child endowment scheme as a solution of the main problem.

(vi) " *Interim* " *Basic Wage*, 1946.—The Court, on 25th November, 1946, commenced the hearing of this case as the result of (*a*) an application made on 30th October, 1946 (during the course of the Standard Hours Case) by the Attorney-General for the Commonwealth for the restoration to the Full Court List of certain adjourned 1940 basic wage applications (see (v) *supra*) ; (*b*) a number of fresh cases which had come to the Court since 1941 and (*c*) an application by the Australasian Council of Trade Unions on behalf of the unions for an " interim " basic wage declaration.

* See page 79 for particulars.

† Legislation covering a scheme which became operative on 1st July, 1941, was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament on 3rd April, 1941—*see* page 108 for details.

The Court had the advantage of considering not only the evidence tendered and submissions made during the time allotted for that purpose, but also a considerable body of evidence relevant to the basic wage question tendered as part of the Standard Hours Case, and the cross-examination and submissions thereon forming part of that case. The case was in fact interposed during the hearing of the Standard Hours Case on the assurance of the Court that it would be dealt with immediately and taken through to finality in the shortest possible time, to which end procedure was laid down designed to cope with the urgency of the situation while at the same time allowing parties ample time to present their cases.

The case ended on 10th December, 1946 and judgment was delivered on 13th December, 1946 whereby an increase of 7s. per week was granted in the "needs" portion of the basic wage then current and based on the weighted average "Court" index number for the Six Capital Cities (as a whole) for the September quarter, 1946. This had the effect of raising the base (1923–27) index number of the "Court" Series Index from 81.0 to 87.0, the corresponding "needs" basic wage from 81s. to 87s. per week, and the current rate for the Six Capital Cities from 93s. to 100s. per week. All "loadings" on the basic wage were retained at their existing amounts until otherwise ordered by the Court.

The immediate monetary effect was to increase by 7s. per week the basic wage in each of the capital cities (with the exception of Hobart, where the increase was 6s.), and in most of the other towns or combinations of towns—the position of the index number for a town in the new Automatic Adjustment Scale (on the new base rate of 87s.) determining whether the increase was 7s. or 6s.

This Adjustment Scale appears on page 39 of this Report. It will be seen that the "Court" index-numbers are obtained by multiplying the "C" Series retail price index-numbers (1923–27 Base = 1,000) by the factor .087, and taking the result to the first decimal place (as it stands). The new "Court" index-numbers have been designated "Court Index (Second Series)", to distinguish them from those of the (now redesignated) "Court Index (First Series)", similarly derived by using the previous lower factor .081 of the latter Series (*vide* p. 37 (iv)). For the purpose of obtaining a continuous "price-index", however, the "First Series" may be converted to the "Second Series" by multiplying the indexes of the former by the factor 1.0741, and *vice versa*, by multiplying "Second Series" indexes by the factor .931.

The incorporation of this increase in the "Court" Series had the advantage of not vitiating in any way the existing adjustment scales in awards, etc., since the higher-value "Court" index numbers for all towns, etc., automatically carried the latter into the appropriate higher-value index-number divisions of the scales, whether the rates were prescribed on a yearly, half-yearly, monthly, weekly, hourly or other basis.

The foregoing increases were in respect of adult males, but as regards females and juveniles, it was provided that the relative rates for males and females as provided in existing awards, etc. of the Court should continue to apply. It was also provided that in the case of females, whose remuneration was governed by any decision of the Women's Employment Board (*vide*, p. 38 *et seq.*) or by the National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations no alteration of rates would ensue by any order pursuant to this judgment.

The new rates were expressed to become operative for the bulk of those affected as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the month of December, 1946 but as to certain employees, for instance, casual workers such as waterside workers and maritime employees, the order was to operate from the 1st day of December, 1946. It was also stated in the judgment that any party to an award not then before the Court was at liberty to file an application for variation of that award and such application would be immediately placed before the Court for determination.

In view of the interim nature of this judgment, and pending the hearing and final determination of the claims which had already been lodged, and of such claims as may in the near future be lodged by the Unions in respect of their several awards for a full review of the basic wage in all its ramifications, and that it would be necessary for the Court at a later stage to express its final opinion upon the same material together with such further material as would in due course be submitted, the Court considered that, for obvious reasons, it would be undesirable and indeed probably prejudicial to an untrammelled presentation and consideration of the final case to set out in the interim judgment any detailed analysis of the evidence or statement of the reasons for the Court's present decision.

(vii) *Rates Operative, Principal Towns*, 1947.—The "basic" wage rates of the Commonwealth Court for adult males (including the "prosperity loadings" granted in 1937), operative in the principal towns of Australia on the 1st November, 1947, were as follows:—

	s.	d.
New South Wales—		
Sydney	112	0
Newcastle(*a*)	112	0
Broken Hill	115	0
Five Towns	112	0
Victoria—		
Melbourne, Geelong, Warrnambool, Mildura	109	0(*b*)
Yallourn	115	6(*b*)
Five Towns	109	0
Queensland—		
Brisbane	105	0
Five Towns	105	0
South Australia—		
Adelaide	106	0
Five Towns	105	0
Western Australia—		
Perth	106	0
Kalgoorlie	114	0
Geraldton	111	0
Five Towns	106	0
Tasmania—		
Hobart	107	0
Launceston	104	0
Queenstown	107	0
Five Towns	106	0
Thirty Towns	108	0
Six Capital Cities	109	0

(*a*) Based on Sydney. (*b*) Based on Melbourne.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

The rate for adult females (prescribed by the individual judges) is approximately 54 per cent. of the adult male rate.

(viii) *Rates Operative, Six Capital Cities*, 1939 *to* 1947.—The following table shows the Commonwealth basic wages payable in the capital cities from March, 1939 to November, 1947.

Basic Weekly Wage Rates (*a*) Fixed by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for each Capital City and the Six Capital Cities Combined from March, 1939 to November, 1947.

Date Operative.(*b*)	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1939—							
March	81 0	79 0	75 0	76 0	76 0	76 0	78 0
June	82 0	81 0	77 0	78 0	77 0	77 0	79 0
September ..	81 0	,,	76 0	,,	,,	,,	,,
December ..	82 0	80 0	,,	77 0	,,	,,	,,
1940—							
February ..	,,	81 0	77 0	,,	,,	78 0	80 0
May	83 0	82 0	78 0	78 0	,,	,,	,,
August ..	85 0	84 0	79 0	80 0	79 0	80 0	82 0
November ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	80 0	81 0	83 0
1941—							
February ..	88 0	86 0	82 0	82 0	81 0	83 0	85 0
May	,,	87 0	83 0	83 0	82 0	84 0	86 0
August ..	89 0	,,	,,	,,	84 0	85 0	,,
November ..	,,	88 0	84 0	84 0	85 0	,,	87 0
1942—							
February ..	91 0	89 0	86 0	86 0	86 0	87 0	88 0
May	93 0	92 0	88 0	88 0	87 0	88 0	90 0
August ..	95 0	94 0	89 0	91 0	89 0	91 0	93 0
November ..	97 0	97 0	91 0	93 0	91 0	92 0	95 0
1943—							
February ..	98 0	98 0	,,	,,	92 0	94 0	96 0
May	,,	,,	92 0	,,	,,	,,	,,
August ..	100 0	99 0	94 0	94 0	94 0	95 0	98 0
November ..	99 0	98 0	93 0	,,	,,	,,	97 0
1944—							
February ..	,,	97 0	,,	93 0	93 0	94 0	96 0
May	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
August ..	,,	98 0	,,	,,	,,	93 0	,,
November ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	94 0	94 0	,,
1945—							
February ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	93 0	,,	,,
May	98 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	93 0	,,
August ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	94 0	,,	,,
November ..	99 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	94 0	,,
1946—							
February ..	,,	,,	,,	94 0	,,	95 0	,,
May	,,	,,	94 0	,,	,,	,,	97 0
August ..	100 0	99 0	,,	95 0	95 0	96 0	98 0
November ..	101 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	97 0	,,
December ..	108 0	106 0	101 0	102 0	102 0	103 0	105 0
1947—							
February ..	,,	107 0	103 0	,,	103 0	104 0	106 0
May	110 0	,,	104 0	103 0	,,	,,	,,
August ..	,,	108 0	,,	104 0	104 0	105 0	107 0
November ..	112 0	109 0	105 0	106 0	106 0	107 0	109 0

(*a*) Rates include "prosperity loadings" granted from 1st July, 1937 and increase in "needs" wage granted from 1st December, 1946. (*b*) Generally from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in the month indicated.

3. **Basic Wage Rates for Females.**—(i) *General.*—In its Judgment of 17th April, 1934, wherein the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration laid down the basis of its "needs" basic wage for adult males, the Court made the following statement in regard to the female rate :—

> "The Court does not think it necessary or desirable, at any rate at the present time, to declare any wage as a basic wage for female employees. Generally speaking they carry no family responsibilities. The minimum wage should, of course, never be too low for the reasonable needs of the employee, but those needs may vary in different industries. In the variations now to be made the proportion in each award of the minimum wage for females to that of males will be preserved."

The previous practice of the Court was therefore continued whereby each Judge granted such proportion of the male rate as he deemed suited to the nature of the industry and the general circumstances of the case. Generally speaking, this proportion was in the vicinity of 54 per cent. of the male rate, although in some cases the proportion was about 56 per cent.

Until 1942 this continued to be substantially the practice of all Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals and in the main its continuance was then made mandatory by Part V. of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations which "pegged" as at 10th February, 1942, all rates of remuneration previously prevailing in any employment. The only exceptions allowed were variations to rectify anomalies, variations resultant from hearings pending prior to 10th February, 1942, and "cost of living" variations.

In March, 1942, however, special action was taken to constitute a Women's Employment Board in conjunction with measures to encourage women to undertake in war-time work which would normally have been performed by men. This Board was given special jurisdiction to determine terms and conditions of such employment.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and State Industrial Tribunals continued to determine rates of pay, &c., of women engaged in what may broadly be described as "women's work" in the pre-war sense, while the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board (first appointed in March, 1942) was made to cover women engaged during the war in work formerly performed by men or in new work which immediately prior to the outbreak of the present war was not performed in Australia by any person.

In July, 1944, National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations authorized the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to make comprehensive investigations (*a*) as to whether minimum rates of wage payable to females in industries considered by the Government to be necessary for war purposes are unreasonably low in comparison with minimum rates payable to females in other essential industries, (*b*) as to whether it is in the national interest, and fair and just, to so increase such rates, and (*c*) as to the amount of such increases. Determinations may be made for any period specified by the Court but not extending beyond six months after the end of the war. In making such determinations the Court was not bound by Part V.* of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations, although such regulations applied to the new rates after determination. The objective of the Female Minimum Rates Regulations was to remove unreasonable disparities which were creating justified discontent and impeding the manpower authority in redistributing female labour in vital industries. This review commenced in the Court on 23rd February, 1945, and ended on 23rd March, judgment being reserved.

Judgment was delivered by the Full Court on 4th May, 1945, to the effect that, in regard to (*a*) above, the majority of the Full Court (Piper *C.J.*, O'Mara and Kelly *JJ.*) found itself unable to declare that the rates in the "referred"† industries were unreasonably low compared with those in the three industries submitted by the Crown and the Union representatives as the standard rates for comparison, viz., those of the Clothing, Rubber and Metal industries, and that there was consequently no necessity to answer question (*b*). Two Judges (O'Mara and Kelly *JJ.*) considered that there were no other industries with rates lower than those of the standard industries mentioned above, compared with which the rates in the

* See paragraph 2 above.

† Twelve vital industries were "referred" by the Government for consideration.

" referred " industries were unreasonably low, but the Chief Judge refrained from giving any answer to this question as he was not satisfied that if this aspect had been fully investigated during the hearing on the material before the Court the answer would necessarily have been in the negative in the cases of all the " referred " industries. In a minority judgment, Drake-Brockman and Foster *JJ.*, answered (*a*) and (*b*) in the affirmative.

Following this negative result the Government, by National Security Regulation (S.R. 1945 No. 139) dated 13th August, 1945, provided for the remuneration of females in the " vital " industries concerned to be not less than 75 per cent. of the corresponding minimum male rate.

As from 12th October, 1944, the Women's Employment Board was discontinued and the Chairman of the Board (A. W. Foster) was made a Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The function of the Board under the Women's Employment Act then devolved upon the Court as constituted by a Judge designated by the Chief Judge. (*Vide* S.R. 1944 No. 149).

The following sub-sections give a brief account of the functions allotted to and of the principles followed by the Women's Employment Board, and a summary of an important judgment delivered by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in 1943 stating the principles followed by the Court in fixing the basic rates payable to female workers and the difference between the rates payable to the women engaged in " women's work " and those payable to the special group of women engaged in " men's work " in war-time under the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board. The judgment also dealt with the question of " anomalies " as between the rates payable to the two classes of women workers.

(ii) *Women's Employment Board.*—The functions of the Women's Employment Board were specified by the Women's Employment Act of 1942*. The purpose of the Act as expressed in the title was " to encourage and regulate the employment of women for the purpose of aiding the prosecution of the present war ". The jurisdiction of the Board was limited to females employed (after 2nd March, 1942) on work usually performed by males or which, immediately prior to the outbreak of the war, was not performed in Australia by any person.

The functions of the Board briefly were to decide what work and what female workers came within its jurisdiction (as defined) and the terms and conditions upon which women might be so employed including hours and special conditions as to safety welfare and health. The Board was required to fix rates of payment for such women with regard to their efficiency and productivity in relation to that of males engaged in such work and the Regulations provided that payment to females (engaged on " men's work ") should be not less than 60 per cent. nor more than 100 per cent. of the male rate.

The Act placed upon employers the onus of applying to the Board for a determination in respect of women engaged on " men's work " as defined and empowered the Board to make determinations of its own motion or on application by organizations of employers or employees. The Board was also empowered to make decisions binding on all employers or on employers in any class or area.

In its several hundreds of decisions the Board awarded a female rate equal on the average to slightly over 60 per cent. of the male rate during the probationary period (usually a matter of a few weeks) and slightly over

(*) The Board was originally created under regulations under the *National Security Act* 1939–1940, dated 25th March, 1942 (Statutory Rules 1942, No. 146), but owing to the disallowance of such regulations by the Senate on 23rd September, 1942, the Board operated under the Women's Employment Act, No. 55 of 1942, as from 6th October, 1942, which validated all previous decisions, &c., of the first Board (gazetted on 11th June, 1942). The second Board was created on 10th November, 1942.

90 per cent. of the male rate after the probationary period, although in some cases this latter percentage ranges down to 75 per cent. In some instances, however, the Board has awarded to females the full basic wage for adult males and the full margins for skill (if any).

On the question of determining relative efficiency and productivity the Board on 17th July, 1942 (Decision No. 9 of 1942—Munition Factories), made the following observations :—

> " Obviously this task cannot be fulfilled with mathematical precision (and) no device mechanical or otherwise can determine the ' average ' female or the ' average ' male, nor measure as one against the other the relative efficiency in terms of a percentage nor determine with precision their relative productivity. To a limited extent records are a guide, for the rest the Board must rely on the opinions of the witnesses in the best position to judge, and the observations which the Board made in their extensive inspections of the plants in actual operation together with the material collected by the statistical departments of the Commonwealth and States.
>
> " The evidence shows that these females as a whole are not as productive as males. In some cases and not a few they equal if not excel males in efficiency and productivity and sometimes in both. Women are not as physically strong as men and there is always by Act of Parliament or in awards and determinations a limitation fixed upon the weights that females may be permitted to lift. These limitations are made not only to accommodate her lesser physical strength but also for paramount health reasons. This involves, where women replace men and weights are to be lifted beyond her capacity, the employment of a male to assist a group of women or an increase in the number of females so that the weight may be jointly lifted or the adoption of other methods. And further there are regular periods of lessened efficiency and productivity peculiar to females.
>
> " And in addition the evidence has revealed that women absent themselves from work much more frequently than males to the great embarrassment of the managers of industry. Many reasons and explanations are given for this, but the Board apart from noting them is not concerned to further investigate them . . . . . The loss of productivity over all the departments of the Applicant in this case due to the excess of female absenteeism is substantial.
>
> " Apart from this loss, which all the departmental managers emphasized was a major problem, all without exception throughout this vast industry agreed that females handled their machines and produced results in every way equal to males. They were not slower to learn their new tasks than males, they did not waste more time in the operating of their machines than males and were doing splendid and satisfactory work."

Exact figures are not available as to the number of women affected by the decisions of the Women's Employment Board. Not only are they difficult to obtain even in respect of ordinary decisions, but in " common rule " cases (in proceedings for which it is not obligatory for all employers to appear) the Board did not have cognizance of all employers affected, and therefore no information as to the total numbers of women involved. Up to 31st July, 1944, the Board estimated that as regards those of whom it had direct knowledge from 70,000 to 80,000 women had come under its

decisions. To this date the Board had dealt with 579 applications, and 195 cases were part heard or to be heard, but the number of new cases was dwindling rapidly. In addition, 117 determinations had been given by Committees of Reference. A summary of the Board's findings shows that it had granted the following percentages of the male rates to women employed substantially on " men's work " (as defined) :—

100 *per cent.*—Tram conductresses, broadcast mechanics, confectionery makers, postal clerks, lift operators, mail officers, machine telegraphists, shop assistants and bread carters.

90 *per cent.*—Munition workers, crane drivers, railway porters, motor mechanics, postwomen, power and hydraulic press operators, storewomen and packers, meter readers.

85 *per cent.*—Metal, rubber, paper manufacturing, tanning, leather and flax workers.

80 *per cent.*—Wool classing.

75 *per cent.*—Post office mechanics.

(iii) *Judgments by Commonwealth Arbitration Court* (1943).—On 24th March, 1943, a case involving determination of general principles as to rates of wage of female employees not within the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board was remitted to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration by the Minister for Labour and National Service under Regulation 9 of the National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations, particularly as affecting female workers at Government small arms ammunition factories. The rates in these cases were considered by their trade union to be anomalous compared with those awarded by the Women's Employment Board to certain other women employed in those factories. The Court in its Judgment dated 17th June, 1943*, rejected the contentions of the union (Arms Explosives and Munition Workers Federation of Australia) and enunciated in full the principles followed by the Court in determining female rates of wage within its jurisdiction.

In order to place the matter in perspective in its relation to the basic wage for males, the Court traced the history of the principles on which the basic wage for males was determined from its original declaration by Mr. Justice Higgins in his " Harvester " judgment of 1907 (see pp. 79–81 of this Report) and continued—

> " Although since 1930, when the ' economic and productivity factor ' emerged as the ' dominant factor ' in the problem of assessment (of the basic wage of adult male employees), the adequacy of the wage to meet the requirements of any ' specified family unit ' has been only a subsidiary consideration, subsidiary that is to say to the question of the capacity of the national production to sustain a particular wage level, it is plain that the Court has not held that its basic wage has been fixed at too low a figure to meet the normal and reasonable needs of a family of husband, wife and at least one child. Nor has its adequacy to that extent been questioned. In this sense it can still be regarded as a family wage, inasmuch as it has been accepted as sufficient at all events to provide ' frugal comfort ' for a man, his wife and at least one dependent child. For present purposes it is enough to say that, until a proper investigation demonstrates the contrary to be the case, we cannot but hold that the amount provided is more than sufficient to meet the normal and reasonable requirements of an

* 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

unmarried worker with no dependants to support out of his earnings. And the same may be said of the living or basic wages determined by authorities functioning under State legislation as appropriate for male employees within their jurisdiction. The method of assessment of wage rates for adult male workers adopted and followed by industrial authorities throughout Australia has been to fix a basic wage portion adequate for the estimated needs of some family group and to add to that some additional payment in recognition of the skill or experience possessed by the worker or the special conditions met with in his particular occupation. The basic wage portion has had no reference to work value; it has been assessed in accordance with needs and it has never been either held or suggested to be inadequate to meet the normal and reasonable needs not only of the worker himself but also of his wife and at least one dependent child."

The Court in its judgment then set out decisions arrived at by various Commonwealth and State Courts since 1912 when the Commonwealth Court first dealt directly with the problem of women's wages. Mr. Justice Higgins dealt with the case*, and stated " I fixed the minimum in 1907 of 7s. per day by finding the sum which would meet the normal needs of an average employee one of his normal needs being the need for domestic life. If he has a wife and children, he is under an obligation—even a legal obligation to maintain them. How is such a minimum applicable to the case of a woman . . . . ? She is not, unless perhaps in very exceptional circumstances, under any such obligation. The minimum cannot be based on exceptional cases."

In respect of the " minimum rate " enjoined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Act, he held that " Nothing is clearer than that the minimum rate referred to in Section 40 means the minimum rate for a class of workers, those who do work of a certain character. If blacksmiths are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that blacksmiths are usually men. If fruit-pickers are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that, up to the present at least, most of the pickers are men (although women have been usually paid less), and that men and women are fairly in competition as to that class of work. If milliners are the class of workers, the minimum rate must, I think, be such as recognizes that all or nearly all milliners are women, and that men are not usually in competition with them."*

In concluding its review the Court stated " the fixation of the basic wage for women at amounts below 60 per cent. of that fixed for men has been general in the awards and determinations of this Court and other industrial authorities of Australia."

The Court stated its conclusions and laid down general principles in the following words :—

" It is beyond question that the general rule adopted and followed by the Australian industrial authorities in the assessment of wages for adult women workers, engaged upon work suitable for women in which they cannot fairly be said to be in competition with men for employment, has been and still is to fix a foundational amount, calculated with reference to the needs of a single woman who has to pay for her board and lodging, has to maintain herself out of her

* 6 C.A.R., p. 72.

earnings, but has no dependants to support; and to add to this foundational or basic amount such marginal amounts as may be appropriate in recognition of the particular skill or experience of the particular workers in question or as compensation for the particular conditions which they encounter in their occupations . . . .

"Just as the wages for male workers are assessed by adopting first a foundational wage—the basic wage—and adding to it marginal amounts fixed according to the relative skill and experience of particular workers or groups of workers, or to the special conditions they encounter, so too are women's wages, for work suitable to them in which they will not be disadvantaged by male competition, fixed by adding to a foundational or basic amount analogous margins. But in each case the foundational wage is in principle and justice different. The man's basic wage is more than sufficient for his personal needs; it purports to provide him with enough to support some family. The woman's, on the other hand, purports to be enough for her to maintain herself only. No allowance is made for the support of any dependants. The man's wage has been measured by this Court with reference to the dominating factor of the productive capacity of industry to sustain it and with due regard consequently to what its application in industry will mean, to the marginal structure which rises above it, and to the consequent wages which will in accordance with established rules and practice be paid to women and to minors.

"In the course of the hearing the Chief Judge drew attention to the necessity which would occur, if women's rates were to be assessed on the basis that relative efficiency and productivity (as between men and women) were to constitute the dominant factor, for a review of the principles in accordance with which the basic wage has been determined. That this necessity would arise must be apparent. For the basic wage for adult males has been fixed at as high an amount as the Court has thought practicable in all the circumstances of the case, including the circumstances of the existing proportionate levels of wages for women and minors. The share of men workers in the fruits of production will need to be reduced if women are to participate therein on an equal footing, or on a better footing generally than that to which they have hitherto been held to be entitled.

"It is desirable that we should indicate as clearly as possible the effect of the conclusions to which the review of the principles of wage assessment we have made has led us. It is that, so long as the foundational or basic wage for women is assessed according to a standard different from that which is the basis of the foundational or basic wage—a family wage—for men, the Court will not, in the exercise of its function of adjudicating between opposing interests, raise the general level of women's minimum wages in occupations suitable for women, and in which they do not encounter considerable competition from men, according to a comparison of their efficiency and productivity with the efficiency and productivity of men doing substantially similar work. To do so would at once depress the relative standard of living of the family as a group, and of its individual members, as compared with that of the typical single women wage-earner."

In December, 1943, Drake-Brockman, *J.* of this Court, in dealing with women employees in the Clothing (Dressmaking and Tailoring Sections)

and Rubber industries, awarded for the duration of the present war and for six months thereafter as a "flat rate" for the industry 75 per cent. of the "needs" basic wage, plus the "prosperity" and "industry" loadings ordinarily applicable. The reason for this action was (in the words of the Judgment) as follows: "it was also common ground (between all the parties) that wastage of the employees in the industry during the last three years had been exceptionally heavy and that it was essential that some means should be found to attract women to the industry and thereafter to retain them for some reasonable period of time after they had been trained."*

In July, 1944, the National Security (Female Minimum Wage) Regulations extended the discretion of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in fixing female minimum wage rates in "vital" industries in war-time as briefly described in sub-section (i) hereof.

4. **Australian Territories.**—(i) *Australian Capital Territory.*—The basic wage for this Territory is determined by the Industrial Board which commenced to operate in 1922 under a local Ordinance (see p. 51). Prior to this date the lowest rate payable to an unskilled labourer was not defined as such, as all wages were paid under the authority of the Federal Capital Commission as a lump sum for the particular occupation in which the worker was employed.

The basic wage adopted by the Industrial Board in its first determination, operating from 1st May, 1922, was 85s. per week, which reached 100s. per week from 10th October, 1926, and fell to 83s. 4d. from 25th July, 1931—the latter amount allowing for the deduction of $16\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. under the Financial Emergency Act then operating.

From 21st October, 1932, the Board adopted as a basic wage the amount of 85s. per week, which was the "Harvester" equivalent (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s.") of the "A" series retail price index-number (1707) for Canberra for the March quarter, 1932, and from two successive dates, 2nd August, 1934, and 1st August, 1935, the amounts declared were also on the same basis.

From 1st July, 1936, however, the Board adopted the "Harvester" equivalent of the Canberra "A" series index-number (1719) for the March quarter, 1936, viz., 85s. 6d. (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s."), and at the same time provided for the quarterly adjustment of this wage in accordance with the variations of the "A" series index-numbers for Canberra by means of a special Automatic Adjustment Scale providing for movements in graduations of 1s. per week.

From 10th October, 1941, the Board decided to continue the "Harvester" basis of the wage (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s."), which then had reached 92s. 6d., also to transfer the basis of adjustment from the "A" series to the "C" series index by means of the Commonwealth Court's "C" series Automatic Adjustment Scale ("Shilling" Scale). At the same time the Board added the amount of 3s. per week to the wage in respect of cost of living variations over the war period not registered by the less comprehensive "A" series index, thus making the total basic wage 95s. 6d. per week. The new basis of adjustment was effected by relating the amount of 95s. 6d. to the Canberra "C" series index-number (1037) for the June quarter, 1941 and the index-number division 1031–1943 of the Court's Adjustment Scale (Base: 1923–27 = 81s.), thus providing for the adjustment only of that portion of the total basic wage equivalent to the "needs" portion of the basic wage of the Court.

* 51 C.A.R., pp. 632 and 648.

From 1st December, 1946, a further amount of 7s. per week was added to the above wage, representing the addition to its basic wage, by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in its "Interim" basic wage judgment of 13th December, 1946. At the same time the basis of adjustment was transferred to the new Adjustment Scale (Base: 1923–27 = 87s.) consequent upon this judgment by relating the amount of 113s. 6d. to the Canberra "C" series index-number (1171) for the September quarter, 1946, and the index-number division of the Scale 1167–1178.

The latest rate payable in the Territory (in respect only of workers outside the Commonwealth Public Service) is 114s. 6d. per week, operative from 1st May, 1947.

(ii) *Northern Territory.*—The determination of the basic wage for this Territory comes within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

There are, in fact, two basic wages operating—(*a*) in respect of areas North of the 20th parallel of south latitude, and generally referred to as the "Darwin" rate, and (*b*) in respect of areas south of that parallel and extending down to the 26th parallel. These are calculated on different bases as set out in the following paragraphs.

(*a*) *The Darwin Basic Wage*—This wage was first determined by the Court in 1915* when the Deputy President (Powers, *J.*) awarded a rate of £3 17s. per week, or 1s. 9d. per hour for an unskilled labourer, which included an allowance of 4s. for lost time.

The basic wage level again came under consideration when the wage for carpenters and joiners was reviewed by Mr. Justice Powers in 1916–17† The Judge referred to an agreement dated 2nd June, 1916, between the Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners and the Northern Agency (formerly Vestey Brothers) which provided for rates based on a budget of the estimated living requirements of a family consisting of a man, wife and two dependent children, amounting to £3 11s. 1d. per week. As the amount awarded (2s. 4d. per hour) for carpenters however, was over £5 per week, the Judge felt that a fair living wage was fully assured. His Honor stated that he did not find anything to cause him to alter the judgment given on 15th March, 1915, when he prescribed a wage of 1s. 9d. per hour.

Up till 1924 the practice of the Court had been to fix the basic wage in accordance with the principles laid down in 1916, and in connexion with an application in 1924 concerning the rate for employees of the Commonwealth Railways, when the wage for these workers stood at £5 4s. 6d., the Judge (Powers *J.*) refused to alter the wage. He stated that he had in mind the amount of £4 12s., to which he would have felt justified in adding £1 to compensate for the many disadvantages caused by isolation, especially the loss of or extra expense of the proper education of the children. He considered, therefore, that the wage of £5 4s. 6d. then payable contained a special allowance on such account, and that the question of such special allowances was a matter for employers and employees to settle between themselves‡.

In 1927(§), Judge Beeby again referred to the regimen of 1916, and implied that since then it had formed the foundation of the basic wages fixed by the Court, and that the sufficiency of the regimen, except as to rent and one or two minor omissions, had never been questioned. On this occasion he fixed the basic wage at £5 10s. per week, or 2s. 6d. per hour, which included 20s. per week district allowance which was suggested by Mr. Justice Powers in his 1924 award as being a reasonable amount.

* 9 C.A.R., p. 1. † 11 C.A.R., p. 51. ‡ 20 C.A.R., p. 731. § 25 C.A.R., p. 897.

As there was no adjustment clause in operation in Territory awards, the basic wage of £5 10s. remained in operation until 1934, excepting that it was reduced by the Financial Emergency Act to £4 16s. 3d. per week.

In 1934*, the Full Court for the first time considered the basic wage. The Court brought the regimen of the 1916 agreement up to date, altered the rent figure from 45s. to 65s. per month, and arrived at the amount of £4 10s. 9d. per week. This was £1 4s. 9d. above the Court's "needs" basic wage recently declared for the six capital cities, the Court regarding the difference as representing the extra amount required to purchase the same standard of living as in the six capital cities, with nothing by way of compensation allowance.

Automatic adjustment provisions first introduced into the awards by this judgment were effected by inserting an appropriate Adjustment Scale based on the equation of £4 10s. 9d. to the Food and Groceries retail price index-number (Special) 1184 for Darwin for the month of August, 1934.

In 1938†, the Court granted a "loading" of 3s. per week on the wage because the Commonwealth Government had extended to the Territory its general civil service increase of £8 per annum.

In 1939‡, the adjustment clause was suspended pending further enquiry into the basic wage, and an amount of 16s. 3d. was added as an additional "loading", making the real basic wage at that period £5 10s. per week.

In 1941§, the Full Court again reviewed the basic wage, and after a full investigation of its past history awarded £5 12s. 9d., made up of (*a*) £4 10s. 9d. awarded in 1934; (*b*) 4s. in respect of accrued adjustments since 1939; 5s. additional allowance for rent; and (*c*) two constant (unadjustable) "loadings" of 3s. and 10s. per week.

The Court also restored the adjustment clause by equating £4 15s. 9d. of the foregoing amounts (£4 10s. 9d. plus 5s. rent) to the base index 1184 of the former adjustment scale, which, however, never became effective owing to its being superseded early in 1942 by the Blakeley Orders referred to below. The two "loadings" were not made adjustable. All other "loadings" mentioned above were dropped.

The basis of adjustment was altered by Mr. Conciliation Commissioner Arthur Blakeley by Orders dated 29th January, 1942‖, owing to the urgent necessity to provide, over the period of the war, for adjustments in respect of rent, clothing and other miscellaneous items of domestic expenditure which, with the exception of rent, had already increased considerably in price throughout Australia, and threatened to increase further as the war continued. Adjustment by means only of the Food and Groceries Index was therefore no longer doing justice to the workers of the Territory, since the workers elsewhere in Australia were enjoying the benefit derived from the adjustment of their wages by means of the more comprehensive "C" series retail price index covering food and groceries, rent, clothing, household drapery, household utensils, fuel, light, fares, smoking and other items of household expenditure.

As there was no All Items ("C" Series) retail price index for the Territory, nor was it possible to compile one on the basis of prices in Darwin, the only alternative was to create a "composite" index with the help of prices for these additional items from some other town of somewhat similar living conditions. The town selected as being most suitable for this purpose was

* 38 C.A.R., p. 944. † 29 C.A.R., p. 501. ‡ 40 C.A.R., p. 323. § 44 C.A.R., p. 253.
46 C.A.R., pp. 411–421.

Townsville, and the "composite" index was therefore computed on the basis of food and groceries prices in Darwin, combined with Townsville prices for rent, clothing and other items of domestic expenditure mentioned above, the index being designated "The Darwin Special 'All Items' Index."

Taking the December quarter, 1940, as a suitable period upon which adjustments should be based, the Special "All Items" index-number calculated for which quarter was 1036, the Court's basic wage of £4 19s. 9d. (including 4s. for accrued adjustments) declared in its judgment of 7th April, 1941*, was related (not "equated") to the Index-Number Division (1031–1043) containing index-number 1036 of the "C" series adjustment scale formerly used by the Court in its awards (Base : 1923–27 1,000 = 81s.), thus giving workers in the Territory the same basis of adjustment as that operating in respect of all workers throughout Australia coming within the jurisdiction of the Court. The rate payable from 1st February, 1942 (when the new basis first became operative) was therefore £5 17s. 9d., inclusive of 5s. under adjustment scale and the two unadjustable "loadings" of 3s. and 10s. granted by the Court's judgment of 7th April, 1941.

Following the bombing of Darwin on 19th February, 1942, and on subsequent occasions, it was no longer possible to obtain even food and groceries prices in Darwin, and prices from Alice Springs and Tennant Creek were substituted for those of Darwin in the Special Index by means of a suitable "graft" of the new to the old prices in order to cancel out the effect on the index due solely to this substitution†.

The rate payable in August, 1947 under the Adjustment Table was £6 8s. 9d. (including the two "loadings" of 3s. and 10s.), operative from 1st February, 1947.

The question of the addition to the wage of the 7s. granted by the Court elsewhere in Australia by its "Interim" basic wage judgment of 13th December, 1946, is now (August, 1947) under the consideration of the Court, and the whole question of the basic wage in the Territory is likely to again come under review.

(*b*) *Northern Territory* (*South of 20th parallel of South Latitude*).—There are two main groups of employees in this area of the Northern Territory, namely, employees of the Commonwealth Railways and employees of the Department of Works and Housing (formerly the Works and Services Branch of the Department of the Interior).

The small number of Commonwealth Railways employees engaged in the area are at Alice Springs and in several small permanent-way gangs between Alice Springs and the South Australian border.

Prior to 1937 Commonwealth Railways employees were covered by awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, but since that year the rates of pay (including the basic wage) have been as prescribed by determinations of the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator. It has been the practice of the Court and the Public Service Arbitrator to fix a common base rate for Commonwealth Railways employees (the main centre being Port Augusta) and to provide, by means of "District Allowances," additional rates to employees in isolated areas.

Prior to 3rd February, 1945, Commonwealth employees (other than Commonwealth Railways employees) engaged in the Northern Territory south of the 20th parallel of south latitude were paid the Darwin basic wage. The Full Court in Judgment issued on 13th November, 1934‡, fixed a rate

* 44 C.A.R., p. 253. † 48 C.A.R., pp. 20–24. ‡ 33 C.A.R., p. 947.

of 80s. per week for Works and Services employees, which included an amount of 7s. per week to cover the cost of freight on goods purchased from the Railway Stores at Port Augusta. This rate compared with £4 10s. 9d. being paid in areas north of the 20th parallel, and with £3 5s. in Adelaide.

Provision was also made for the adjustment of 73s. of this wage to be made in the manner provided by the Court for railway employees at Alice Springs, viz., on the basis of the Court's "C" series adjustment scale in accordance with the variations of the "Special" index-number for Port Augusta (inclusive of Railway Stores prices for groceries and dairy produce). Although no base index-number was mentioned, it can be taken that the base index-number division of the scale (809–820 = 66s.) was the starting point of the variations and was related to a total basic wage of £4, as this division contained "C" series index-number 819 (Special) for the September quarter, 1934—from which it will also be observed that only 66s. and not 73s. of the total wage was actually adjustable.

The 3s. per week "loading" granted by the Court in 1938* applied to employees located south of the 20th parallel of south latitude as well as to those engaged north thereof.

The total basic wage payable in respect of the index-number for the June quarter 1947 is £5 10s. per week. The Court has indicated its intention to apply the 7s. per week increase granted in its "Interim" Basic Wage Judgment of 13th December, 1946, but covering order has not yet been issued by the Court.

5. **State Basic Wages.**—(i) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard "living" wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the "living" wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. Determinations of the "living" wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the "living" wage for adult male and female employees in the State. Its first declaration was made on 5th September, 1918, and numerous declarations were made during the period 1918 to 1925, the last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed *inter alia*, "not more frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State." The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1932, directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of

* 29 C.A.R., p. 501.

Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

The variations in the living wage determined by the Industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below :—

Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
16th February, 1914 ..	2 8 0	..	..
17th December, 1915 ..	2 12 6	..	..
18th August, 1916 ..	2 15 6	..	..
5th September, 1918 ..	3 0 0	17th December, 1918 ..	1 10 0
8th October, 1919 ..	3 17 0	23rd December, 1919 ..	1 19 0
8th October, 1920 ..	4 5 0	23rd December, 1920 ..	2 3 0
8th October, 1921 ..	4 2 0	22nd December, 1921 ..	2 1 0
12th May, 1922	3 18 0	9th October, 1922 ..	1 19 6
10th April, 1923	3 19 0	(*a*)	2 0 0
7th September, 1923 ..	4 2 0	.. .. ..	2 1 6
24th August, 1925 ..	4 4 0	.. .. ..	2 2 6
27th June, 1927	4 5 0	.. .. ..	2 6 0
20th December, 1929 ..	4 2 6	.. .. ..	2 4 6
26th August, 1932 ..	3 10 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
11th April, 1933	3 8 6	.. .. ..	1 17 0
20th October, 1933 ..	3 6 6	.. .. ..	1 16 0
26th April, 1934	3 7 6	.. .. ..	1 16 6
18th April, 1935	3 8 6	.. .. ..	1 17 0
24th April, 1936	3 9 0	.. .. ..	(*b*)1 17 6
27th October, 1936 ..	3 10 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
27th April, 1937	3 11 6(*c*)	.. .. ..	1 18 6

(*a*) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.
(*b*) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.
(*c*) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for details of which and latest rates see below.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court of 23rd June, 1937, referred to on page 83, the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Commonwealth rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's "All Items" Retail Price Index-Numbers,

shortly known as the " Court " Series of Index-Numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the " prosperity loadings " as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions, fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "prosperity loading " of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The basic rate for adult females was fixed at 54 per cent. of the adult male rate to the nearest 6d. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate*; and to specify the appropriate " Court " Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

Compared with State adult basic wages of £3 11s. 6d. per week for males and £1 18s. 6d. for females operative at the time, the alteration represented for males increases of 6s. 6d. in Sydney; 3s. 6d. in Country districts (with certain exceptions); and 4s. 6d. for railway and other Crown employees as defined by the Act. For females the increases were 54 per cent. of the foregoing, and amounted to 3s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d., respectively.

The latest rates applicable in the metropolitan area under this system of fixation and adjustment are £5 12s. per week for adult males, and £3 0s. 6d. for adult females, from the first pay period commencing in November, 1947.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age operated in New South Wales from July, 1927, until superseded by the Commonwealth Government scheme from 1st July, 1941, and a brief account of the main features of the system appears on page 107.

(ii) *Victoria.*—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Commonwealth Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments in accordance with variations in retail prices. With the passing of The Factories and Shops Acts, Nos. 4,275 of 1934 which operated from 17th October, 1934, and 4,461 of 1936, it is now obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Commonwealth Award rates and conditions " which such Boards are under the Factory and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations ". The Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

The latest Commonwealth rate for Melbourne is £5 9s. per week for males operative from 1st November, 1947, and the female rate approximately 54 per cent. of that or £2 19s.

(iii) *Queensland.*—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 28) of 1929, repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(*a*) the " basic " wage, and (*b*) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the " standard " hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and the two Conciliation Commissioners.

* *See* N.S.W. Industrial Gazette 1937, Vol. 52, pages 783–4.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the "basic" wage are—(*a*) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (*b*) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the "basic" wage or "standard" hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a basic wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the "basic" or "living" wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows :—

Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (*a*)	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939	4 4 0	2 5 0
31st March, 1941	4 9 0	2 8 0
4th May, 1942	4 11 0	2 9 6

(*a*) Fixed by Basic Wage Act.

The amount of 89s. was continued in operation by the Court up to and including its declaration of 15th April, 1942, which amount, taking the most favorable view of the standard of living, it considered, complied with the requirements of Section 9 of the Act. In order to ensure that it would continue to do so under prevailing conditions created by the war, however, the Court indicated its intention "to declare it quarterly on the cost of living 'C' Series (All Items) index, commencing with the figures for the first quarter of 1942." In accordance with this undertaking the Court, on 21st April, 1942, raised, as from 4th May, 1942, the basic wage to 91s. per week for adult males and 49s. 6d. for adult females on the basis of the variation in retail

prices shown by the index-numbers mentioned for Brisbane between the December quarter, 1941, and the March quarter, 1942, and similar variations have since been made whenever considered necessary by the Court.

The latest rates payable under such variations are £5 9s. for adult males and £3 4s. 6d. for adult females, from 18th October, 1947.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the Southern Division (Eastern District—including Brisbane); allowances are added for other areas as follows:—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division, 10s.; and Western District, 17s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.*

(iv) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Code 1920–1937 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the "living" wage to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living" wage whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living" wage, but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

According to the Industrial Code 1920–1943, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living" wage is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living" wage was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living" wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living" wage for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

Following on the declaration of an "interim" increase in its "needs" basic wage by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on 13th December, 1946 (*vide* p. 85) the South Australian Parliament, by virtue of the Economic Stability Act No. 52 of 1946, and other enabling powers, provided for the Governor, by proclamation, to declare the "daily living wage" for adult males in the metropolitan area to be one-sixth of the Commonwealth basic weekly wage for this area (102s. per week, inclusive of the "prosperity loading" of 4s.) and to be operative from 7th January, 1947. The Act mentioned also provided for similar proclamations in respect of any adjustment of such wage, but the powers of the Board of Industry to declare a "living wage" were retained, and any such wage so declared will supersede that declared by proclamation.

* As defined in Queensland Industrial Gazette, 10th December, 1921, page 826.

The variations in the living wages determined by the Board of Industry are shown below, and apply to the whole State :—

Basic Wage Variations in South Australia.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921.. ..	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922	3 17 6	..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	..	..
15th May, 1924	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	1 11 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937.. ..	1 14 9
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	25th November, 1937 ..	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 ..	3 18 0	5th January, 1939 ..	1 18 0
28th November, 1940 ..	4 4 0	28th November, 1940 ..	2 1 0
27th November, 1941 ..	4 7 0	27th November, 1941 ..	2 3 6
15th October, 1942 ..	4 14 0	15th October, 1942 ..	2 6 2
26th September, 1946 ..	4 18 6	26th September, 1946 ..	2 15 0
7th January, 1947 ..	5 2 0	7th January, 1947 ..	2 17 0
28th August, 1947 ..	5 4 0	28th August, 1947 ..	2 18 0

(v) *Western Australia.*—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1941, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1941 provides that, before the 14th June in every year, the Court, of its own motion, shall determine and declare—(*a*) a "basic" wage to operate from the 1st July of each year, to be paid to male and female workers ; and (*b*) wherever and whenever necessary, differential basic rates to be paid in special or defined areas of the State.

The expression "basic" wage means a sum sufficient to enable the average worker to whom it applies to live in reasonable comfort, having regard to any domestic obligation to which such average worker would be ordinarily subject. The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is made in the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act of 1930 for quarterly adjustments of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The first declaration of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week.

The variations in the annual declarations of the Court of Arbitration for the various areas in the State are shown in the following table :—

Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.				South-West Land Division.				Gold-fields Areas and Other Parts of State.			
	Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
1st July, 1926 ..	4 5 0		2 5 11		4 5 0		2 5 11		4 5 0		2 5 11	
,, ,, 1929 ..	4 7 0		2 7 0		4 7 0		2 7 0		a4 7 0		a2 7 0	
,, ,, 1930 ..	4 6 0		2 6 5		4 5 0		2 5 11		4 5 0		2 5 11	
,, ,, 1931 ..	3 18 0		2 2 2		3 17 0		2 1 8		3 17 0		2 1 8	
,, ,, 1932 ..	3 12 0		1 18 11		3 13 6		1 19 8		3 18 0		2 2 2	
,, ,, 1933 ..	3 8 0		1 16 9		3 9 6		1 17 6		3 17 6		2 1 10	
,, ,, 1934 ..	3 9 6		1 17 6		3 10 0		1 17 10		3 19 6		2 2 11	
,, ,, 1935 ..	3 10 6		1 18 1		3 11 2		1 18 5		4 4 4		2 5 6	
,, ,, 1936 ..	3 10 6		1 18 1		3 11 9		1 18 9		4 6 0		2 6 5	
,, ,, 1937 ..	3 13 9		1 19 10		3 14 8		2 0 4		4 7 0		2 7 0	
,, ,, 1938 ..	4 0 0		2 3 2		4 1 0		2 3 9		4 13 3		2 10 4	
,, ,, 1939 ..	b4 2 2		b2 4 4		4 3 1		2 4 10		b4 16 4		b2 12 0	
,, ,, 1940 ..	4 2 8		2 4 8		4 3 3		2 4 11		4 16 3		2 12 0	
,, ,, 1941(c) ..	4 8 0		2 7 6		4 9 3		2 8 2		5 3 6		2 15 11	
,, ,, 1943 ..	4 19 1		2 13 6		4 18 1		2 13 0		5 5 9		2 17 1	
,, ,, 1944 ..	4 19 11		2 13 11		4 19 8		2 13 10		5 7 1		2 17 10	
,, ,, 1945 ..	5 0 1		2 14 1		4 19 7		2 13 9		5 7 5		2 18 0	
,, ,, 1946 ..	5 1 1		2 14 7		5 0 6		2 14 3		5 9 0		2 18 10	
26th Feb., 1947(d) ..	5 7 1		2 17 10		5 6 6		2 17 6		5 15 0		3 2 3	
1st July, 1947 ..	5 7 10		2 18 3		5 7 3		2 17 11		5 16 0		3 2 8	

(*a*) Excluding Gold-fields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926.
(*b*) Applicable from 24th April, 1939.
(*c*) Applicable from 28th April, 1941.
(*d*) Special declaration following " interim " basic wage increase of Commonwealth Court.

It is of interest that the declaration of 13th June, 1938 (operative from 1st July) was based on the findings of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920. For this purpose the Court reduced the amount recommended by the Commission for a five-unit family to the equivalent for a four-unit family, and brought the resulting amounts up to their purchasing equivalents at the March quarter, 1938, by means of the separate " group " retail price index-numbers in respect of the sections for food, clothing and miscellaneous expenditure, and for rent added an amount which was considered fair under ruling conditions. The resultant amounts for the sections mentioned were—Food, £1 10s. 9d. ; Rent, 19s. 6d. ; Clothing, 14s. 9d. ; Miscellaneous, 15s.—Total, £4. Thereafter the annual declarations of the Court (with the exception of that of 26th February, 1947 in the above table) have simply maintained that standard as varied by retail price index-numbers, while the provision for the quarterly adjustment by the Court of the basic wage in accordance with retail price index-numbers certified by the Government Statistician maintains its purchasing power over the intervening periods.

The latest rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court are shown in para. (vii) below.

(vi) *Tasmania.*—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Commonwealth Court, and adjust wages automatically or otherwise in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers in conformity with provisions

of the Wages Board Act. The latest Commonwealth adult male rate for Hobart is £5 7s. operative from 1st November 1947, and the adult female rate approximately 54 per cent. of the male rate or £2 18s.

(vii) *Rates Prescribed.*—The "basic" wage rates of State industrial tribunals in force on 1st November, 1947, are summarized in the following table :—

Basic Weekly Wage Rates fixed by State Industrial Tribunals.

State.	"Basic" Wage.		Date of Operation. (Approx.)	Family Unit (for Male Rate).
	Males.	Females.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
New South Wales	(a)5 12 0	(a)3 0 0	1.11.47	(b)
Victoria(c) ..	(5 9 0)	(2 19 0)	(1.11.47)	(c)
Queensland ..	(d)5 9 0	3 4 6	18.10.47	Man, wife, and three children
South Australia ..	5 4 0	2 18 0	28.8.47	" " " "
Western Australia ..	(e)5 9 3	(e)2 19 0	23.7.47	" " two "
Tasmania(c) ..	(5 7 0)	(2 18 0)	(1.11.47)	(c)

(a) Sydney, Newcastle, Port Kembla-Wollongong. Broken Hill—Males, £5 15s.; Females, £3 2s. Elsewhere—Males, £5 9s.; Females, £2 19s.

(b) Commonwealth Basic Wage operative—no defined family unit.

(c) None declared, but rates shown are those of Commonwealth Court which are followed to a large extent.

(d) Southern Division (Eastern District—including Brisbane). Allowances added for other Areas :—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division, 10s.; Western District, 17s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(e) Metropolitan area. "Basic" wage for Gold-fields areas and other portions of State exclusive of the South-West Land Division—Males, £5 17s. 6d.; Females, £3 3s. 5d. South-West Land Division (excluding Metropolitan area)—Males, £5 8s. 9d.; Females, £2 18s. 9d.

6. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

(i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.

(ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.

(iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at the 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total (a) ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

(a) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 6d., but no recommendation made.

The corresponding costs of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first Report) for the years 1914 to 1920 were as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that " a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)". After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the outcome of which was the creation of the All Items (" C " Series) Index of Retail Prices, particulars of which are published on pp. 6, 9, 17–25, of this Report.

The recommendations of this Commission in respect of the basic wage were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance the amounts suggested represented over ruling rates,* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

The standards of this wage, however, were implemented to a certain extent in the " Living Wage " declarations of the Industrial Commission of New South Wales in 1926 to 1932.

The amounts recommended were also adopted with slight modifications by the Industrial Court of Western Australia in 1926 and again in 1938 on the basis of a four-unit family, further particulars of which will be found on page 105.

7. **Child Endowment.**—(i) *General.*—The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children is now in operation throughout Australia on a national basis.

(ii) *The New South Wales Scheme.*—The first attempt in Australia to institute the system was made in New South Wales in 1919, when a Bill was introduced into the State Parliament to provide a flat basic wage for a man and wife, and an allowance of 5s. per week for each child, the latter rate to be reduced on a sliding scale and to cease when the income reached an amount of £3 per week above the basic wage. The Bill was rejected, but the subject again came up in the session of 1926–27, when Acts, which have been amended during subsequent years, provided for the payment of child allowances in respect of dependent children under the age of fourteen years. The original Act was assented to on 11th April, 1927, and allowances were paid as from 23rd July, 1927. Prior to December, 1929, the Act provided

* The " Harvester " equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3, 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index-number.

for (*a*) the declaration of a basic wage, and (*b*) the payment of an allowance of 5s. per week in respect of each dependent child, subject to the provision that child allowances were to be paid only to the extent to which the total earnings of the worker and his family fell short of the sum represented by the *basic wage* plus child allowance at the rate of 5s. per week for each child. The amending Act, assented to on 23rd December, 1929, provided that, subject to the last-mentioned provision, child endowment should be 5s. per week for each child except one in the family. Payments of child allowances in New South Wales were made from a fund created by a levy on the total amount of wages paid by employers. The rate of tax during 1930 was fixed at 1 per cent. From 1st July, 1931, the rate was fixed at 2 per cent., and from 1st January, 1932, at the rate of 5d. in the £ on all wages above £3 per week. The amount of levy collected during 1932–33 was £2,409,034, and £2,105,659 was paid away in allowances to 63,072 families. The levy was discontinued as from 1st January, 1934, the cost of endowment being met from the Special Income and Wages Tax, which is also used for other social services. The scheme was abolished upon the introduction of the national scheme by the Commonwealth Government in July, 1941, particulars of which appear in (iv) below.

(iii) *Commonwealth Public Service.*—The first system of child endowment in Australia was instituted within the Commonwealth Public Service. It came into operation on 1st November, 1920, when, following on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage,* the Commonwealth Government decided to pay a basic wage of £4 a week in certain cases and child allowances to officers at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child under fourteen years of age, with a limitation of salary plus allowance of £400 per annum. As the result of proceedings before the Public Service Arbitrator in 1923, these allowances were confirmed as a permanent part of the salary scheme, and the necessary fund to meet them was created by deducting the average value of the payment from the basic wage of all adult officers. In effect, therefore, the officers themselves provided the fund from which the allowance was paid. The deduction was originally £11 per annum, but later £12. The payment of the allowance in the Service was subsequently extended to officers receiving from salary and allowance an amount not greater than £500 per annum. Further details regarding the introduction and method of calculating the payments will be found in Labour Report No. 17, and later Reports. The scheme was abolished at the instance of the officers upon the introduction of the national scheme by the Commonwealth Government in July, 1941, particulars of which appear in (iv) below. The deduction of £12 per annum was consequently discontinued from 10th July, 1941.

(iv) *National Scheme.*—The Commonwealth Government, in June, 1927, called a conference at Melbourne of the Premiers of the several States to consider the question from a national standpoint. The Prime Minister submitted various estimates of cost of endowing dependent children under fourteen years of age in Australia at 5s. per week. After discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to a Royal Commission to be appointed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Commission submitted its Report on 15th December, 1928. It was not unanimous in its findings, and the opinions and recommendations of the members were embodied in two separate reports, which dealt

* The Chairman of the Commission (Mr. A. B. Piddington, K.C.) in a Supplementary Report suggested that the wage of £5 16s. recommended by the Commission be split up into a flat basic wage payment of £4, and a child endowment of 12s. per week for each child, the fund for the payment of the latter allowance to be created by a tax on employers of 10s. 9d. per week per employee.

exhaustively with the constitutional aspects, existing systems, industrial legislation, the basic wage, standard of living, regulation of wages, working conditions and cognate matters.

The findings and recommendations in the *majority* and *minority* reports are given in Labour Report No. 19.

At the conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers held at Canberra in May, 1929, the Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government was not prepared to adopt a scheme financed entirely from the proceeds of taxation, as had been recommended in the minority report. The Commonwealth Government agreed with the majority of the Commission that child endowment could not be separated from the control of the basic wage—a power which the Commonwealth did not possess and which the States were not prepared to relinquish. The Government, therefore, did not propose to establish any system of child endowment. It was generally agreed that any scheme which would increase the charges upon industry would be unwise at that particular time. The matter of child endowment was accordingly left to be dealt with as the State Governments should think proper.

Early in 1941, the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to introduce a scheme of child endowment throughout Australia. The necessary legislation* was introduced into Parliament on 27th March, and the passage through all stages was completed on 3rd April, 1941. The main features of the scheme, which came into operation from 1st July, 1941, are as follows :—

(*a*) Payment at the rate of 7s. 6d. per week (5s. per week prior to 26th June, 1945) for all children under the age of sixteen in excess of one child in each family, provided the persons claiming the endowment, and the child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed have resided in Australia for the period of twelve months preceding the date of claim.

(*b*) The endowment is payable to the mother of the child, or to such persons as are prescribed.

(*c*) Endowment is also payable to approved institutions, not wholly or mainly dependent upon the Commonwealth or a State for their revenue, in respect of all children under sixteen years of age maintained therein.

(*d*) The scheme was financed partly from Consolidated Revenue, partly from the abolition of the exemptions from taxation in respect of children after the first and the major part from a tax of 2½ per cent. of all pay-rolls in excess of £20 per week, but is now a charge on the National Welfare Fund.

(*e*) The general administration of the Act is under the control of the Director-General of Social Services, and the detailed administration is carried out by the Deputy Directors in each State and other officers appointed for the purposes of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947.

Consequent upon the operation of the Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme, appropriate steps were taken for the termination of the schemes operating in New South Wales and the Commonwealth Public Service.

* Act No. 8, 1941 (Child Endowment Act) as amended by No. 5, 1942 and Nos. 10 and 41, 1945; Act No. 2, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act); and Act No. 3, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Act).

A summary of the operations of this scheme during the six years of its existence, from 1st July, 1941, to 30th June, 1947, is set out in the two following tables :—

Child Endowment : Australia, 1941-42 to 1946-47.

Year.	Endowed Families.		Approved Institutions.		Total Number of Endowed Children.
	Number of Families.	Number of Endowed Children.	Number of Institutions.	Number of Endowed Children.	
1941-42 ..	487,674	895,558	246	14,289	909,847
1942-43 ..	491,121	891,221	315	16,938	908,159
1943-44 ..	503,140	903,577	321	18,396	921,973
1944-45 ..	518,293	920,427	335	18,116	938,543
1945-46 ..	533,819	945,542	342	18,989	964,531
1946-47 ..	559,730	986,814	355	19,743	1,006,557

Year.	Amount Paid to Endowees and Approved Institutions.	Annual Liability for Endowment on 30th June.	Average Annual Rate of Endowment per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Average Number of Endowed Children per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Number of Endowed Children in each 10,000 of Population.
	£	£	£		
1941-42 ..	11,302,863	11,828,011	23.873	1.836	1,268
1942-43 ..	11,659,626	11,806,067	23.591	1.815	1,256
1943-44 ..	12,256,976	11,985,649	23.346	1.796	1,262
1944-45 ..	12,036,249	18,301,588	34.630	1.776	1,271
1945-46 ..	18,019,178	18,808,354	34.540	1.771	1,295
1946-47 ..	19,862,933	19,627,862	34.379	1.763	1,331

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

§ 1. Employment.

1. **General.**—Data on which this section is based are divided into three main categories : (*a*) Census, 1933 and quasi-censuses ; (*b*) monthly returns for Pay-Roll Tax purposes, supplemented by State Statisticians' collections of Government employment ; and (*c*) reports from Trade Union secretaries.

The first quasi-census was the National Register, July, 1939. It covered males aged 18-64 years and, supplemented by other data, provided estimates for July, 1939. The Civilian Register, June, 1943, and Occupation Survey, June, 1945, covered civilians aged 14 years and over and were supplemented by records of the Defence Forces.

Pay-roll Tax returns first became available in July, 1941.

2. **Total Occupied Persons—Australia.**—The estimates in the table below are divided into three categories (*a*) Defence Forces ; (*b*) all persons fully occupied as employers, or as workers in businesses or on farms on their own account ; and (*c*) wage or salary earners fully employed, or occupied as casual, part-time, intermittent or seasonal wage earners. Unemployed wage earners are excluded.

Male unpaid "helpers" in rural industry, who numbered about 35,000 in June, 1933, and about 33,000 in March, 1946, have been included with employers and workers on own account, as it is considered that the majority

of these are sons or other close relatives of farmers working in an unofficial partnership or as learners with the farm owner. Unpaid "helpers" in other industries, who numbered about 6,000 males and 4,000 females in June, 1933, have been included with wage and salary earners. Unpaid female "helpers" on farms are very numerous, some 22,000 being shown on Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics returns for March, 1946. Generally they are occupied mainly in home duties. All women occupied in unpaid home duties have been excluded from the category of occupied persons.

Statistics of net enlistments in the Defence Forces shown in the table below represent total enlistments for full-time duty less deaths and discharges. Prior to December, 1941, men in certain age-groups were called-up for short training courses but these men are excluded from the figures. In July, 1941, the number of such men was approximately 50,000.

Total Occupied Persons : Australia, 1933 to 1946.

(Thousands.)

Year and Month.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments).	Employers and Workers on Own Account.			Wage and Salary Earners.			Total Occupied Civilians.	Total Occupied Persons including Forces.
		Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.	Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.		
				MALES.					
1933—June..	5.8	292.4	248.3	540.7	200.0	992.0	1192.0	1732.7	1738.5
1939—July..	12.9	300.0	299.0	599.0	202.0	1293.1	1495.1	2094.1	2107.0
1941—July..	282.8*b*	284.0	208.0	492.0	188.0	1363.4	1551.4	2043.4	2326.2
1943—June..	685.0	262.0	150.0	412.0	120.9	1273.2	1394.1	1806.1	2491.1
1945—June(*c*)	603.5	287.5	187.1	474.6	130.2	1294.2	1424.4	1899.0	2502.5
1946—June(*a*)	132.0	295.5	282.3	577.8	181.7	1506.5	1688.2	2266.0	2398.0
Dec.(*a*)	74.9	299.0	301.0	600.0	186.7	1577.0	1763.7	2363.7	2438.6
				FEMALES.					
1933—June..	..	15.1	56.2	71.3	4.4	447.5 (*d*)	451.9	523.2	523.2
1939—July..	..	16.0	62.0	78.0	4.0	561.6	565.6	643.6	643.6
1941—July..	1.8	14.0	56.8	70.8	6.0	656.2	662.2	733.0	734.8
1943—June..	44.0	11.7	34.4	46.1	28.1	682.1	710.2	756.3	800.3
1945—June(*c*)	45.4	17.0	43.1	60.1	23.0	667.1	690.1	750.2	795.6
1946—June(*a*)	11.4	16.0	58.0	74.0	22.0	646.1	668.1	742.1	753.5
Dec.(*a*)	3.7	16.0	61.0	77.0	21.0	660.9	681.9	758.9	762.6
				PERSONS.					
1933—June..	5.8	307.5	304.5	612.0	204.4	1439.5	1643.9	2255.9	2261.7
1939—July..	12.9	316.0	361.0	677.0	206.0	1854.7	2060.7	2737.7	2750.6
1941—July..	284.6*b*	298.0	264.8	562.8	194.0	2019.6	2213.6	2776.4	3061.0
1943—June..	729.0	273.7	184.4	458.1	149.0	1955.3	2104.3	2562.4	3291.4
1945—June(*c*)	648.9	304.5	230.2	534.7	153.2	1961.3	2114 5	2649.2	3298.1
1946—June(*a*)	143.4	311.5	340.3	651.8	203.7	2152.6	2356.3	3008.1	3151.5
Dec.(*a*)	78.6	315.0	362.0	677.0	207.7	2237.9	2445.6	3122.6	3201.2

(*a*) Subject to revision. (*b*) Excludes approximately 50,000 men called up for short training courses. (*c*) 1st June, 1945 (Occupation Survey). (*d*) Includes females, in thousands, in private domestic service as follows :—106.7 in June, 1933, 124.5 in July, 1939, 100.0 in July, 1941, 75.0 in June, 1942, 41.5 in June, 1943, and 47.6 in June 1945, 50.1 in June and December, 1946.

From June, 1933, to July, 1939, the number of occupied persons of both sexes increased by 488,900, due to the increase of 223,700 in the number of persons available and offering for gainful occupation and to the decrease of 265,200 in the number unemployed from 563,200 to 298,000.

During the war years from July, 1939, to June, 1943, the total labour force increased by 268,600. The Defence Forces absorbed 716,000 drawn from the following sources :—

(*a*) Net decrease in number of occupied civilians—175,000 ;
(*b*) Decrease in unemployment—272,000 ;
(*c*) Net expansion of total labour force—269,000.

Based on the pre-war trends, it was estimated that item (*c*) above included about 180,000 persons whose entry into the labour force could be attributed solely to war-time conditions.

The total labour force expanded by 37,000 between June, 1943 and June, 1945, males and females both increasing. During 1945–46, however, the available labour force is estimated to have decreased by 68,700 (males, 35,400 ; females, 33,300), and a further fall of 1,600 occurred in the six months ended December, 1946. The decrease in the total labour force which has occurred since the cessation of hostilities is due to two factors—firstly, retirement of some persons who entered the Defence Forces or civilian employment solely on account of war conditions and who normally would not have sought gainful enployment ; secondly, entry into full-time training courses of ex-Service personnel.

The approximate total labour force in December, 1946, was 3,284,000 (males, 2,505,000 ; females, 779,000) including estimates for unemployed persons (66,400 males and 16,300 females) but excluding 22,800 men and 3,000 women who were doing full-time Reconstruction Training courses preparatory to resuming or commencing civil employment.

The number of females available for, and seeking gainful occupation, which in June, 1945 was 811,800, declined by 32,900 to 778,900 in December, 1946. Probably the majority of those who retired from gainful employment were married women of whom the number in paid employment had increased very considerably during the war. The following table shows the conjugal condition of civilian females offering for gainful employment in 1933 and 1945 :—

Conjugal Condition, Female Civil Labour Force : Australia, June, 1933 and June, 1945.

Conjugal Condition.	June, 1933.	June, 1945.
Never married	515,600	535,100
Married	65,100	181,800
Widowed	39,900	39,500
Divorced	5,700	10,000
Total	626,300	766,400

During the first two years of the war period occupied civilians showed a small increase although over 300,000 men were in the Forces or militia training camps by July, 1941. The entry of Japan into the war led to a rapid increase in the rate of expansion of the Defence Forces so that in June, 1943, there were 729,000 persons in the Forces and occupied civilians numbered 2,562,400—a decrease of 175,300 since July, 1939, despite the absorption of virtually all unemployed persons and the attraction into gainful occupations of about 180,000 persons who normally would not be so occupied. At this stage of the war the munitions programme had reached its peak and a policy of reducing the numbers employed on this work was applied shortly

afterwards. A plan of special releases from the Defences Forces also was introduced which, together with reduction of employment on munitions, enabled civilian employment in other vital fields (especially rural industry) to be expanded. Between June, 1943, and June, 1945 (immediately prior to the end of the war) the number of occupied civilians increased by 86,800. Rural industry absorbed 35,000 and other industries 51,800.

During 1945–46, as demobilization of the Defence Forces progressed, there was a rapid increase in the number of occupied civilians—358,900 for the year. During this period, and for some time thereafter, there were substantial numbers of ex-Service personnel on extended leave prior to resumption of civil employment. Largely on this account occupied civilians increased by 114,500 (males, 97,700; females, 16,800) between June and December, 1946, although numbers discharged from the Forces in the period were only 62,600 males and 7,700 females.

From July, 1939, to June, 1943, persons occupied in rural industry declined from 522,000 to 422,700 and recovered to about 522,700 in December, 1946. At this date, females employed in rural industry were estimated to be 37,000 compared with 20,000 in 1939.

The numbers occupied in industries other than rural were 2,215,700 in July, 1939; 2,139,700 in June, 1943; 2,191,500 in June, 1945, and 2,599,900 in December, 1946. Employers and workers on own account decreased from 361,000 in July, 1939, to 184,400 in June, 1943, partly as a result of enlistments in the Defence Forces but chiefly as a result of changing to wage or salary earning. It is estimated that by December, 1946, employers and workers on own account had recovered to their pre-war level.

Male wage and salary earners in industries other than rural reached their lowest point in July, 1943 (1,266,400) nearly 27,000 below the July, 1939 level. Thereafter there was a gradual upward trend, the increase in the two years ended June, 1945, being 21,000. On 1st June, 1945, the total was 1,100 above the pre-war level. During 1945–46 there was an increase of 212,300 and in the six months ended December, 1946, and the quarter ended March, 1947, further increases of 70,500 and 40,000 respectively were recorded. Many more workers could be absorbed if available (June, 1947).

Female wage and salary earners in industries other than rural are conveniently treated in two groups—private domestic and "other". Domestic servants in private households decreased rapidly during the war—from 124,500 in July, 1939, to 41,500 in June, 1943. They numbered about 50,000 in December, 1946, or 40 per cent. of the 1939 figures. Wage earners in the "other" group increased by 119,000 in the two years ended July, 1941, a further 47,600 by June, 1942, and another 37,000 in 1942–43. From June, 1943, to June, 1945, there was a decline of 21,000 which may have been related to the reduction in munitions manufacture and the return to civil life during this period of a large number of men. Demobilization of the Defence Forces and cessation of many war-time activities resulted in a further decline in women available and offering for civil employment. Nevertheless, females in civil employment increased gradually between January, 1946, and March, 1947.

3. **Total Occupied Persons—States.**—The following table shows total occupied males and females in each State in July, 1939, and December, 1946, divided into Defence Forces, Employers and Workers on Own Account and Wage and Salary Earners.

Total Occupied Persons—July, 1939 and December, 1946.(*a*)

(Thousands)

State.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments.)		Employers and Workers on Own Account.		Wage and Salary Earners.		Total Occupied Persons including Forces.	
	July, 1939.	Dec., 1946.	July, 1939.	Dec., 1946.	July, 1939.	Dec., 1946.	July, 1939.	Dec., 1946.
MALES.								
New South Wales ..	4.9	29.0	216.2	215.6	596.2	710.4	817.3	955.0
Victoria	4.4	23.7	162.9	163.8	399.5	469.8	566.8	657.3
Queensland	1.0	9.0	95.1	97.6	218.6	247.4	314.7	354.0
South Australia ..	1.1	6.2	54.6	54.4	127.7	153.6	183.4	214.2
Western Australia ..	1.0	5.2	47.4	44.8	99.7	114.4	148.1	164.4
Tasmania	0.5	1.8	21.5	22.5	46.9	59.2	68.9	83.5
Australia(*b*) ..	12.9	74.9	599.0	600.0	1495.1	1763.7	2107.0	2438.6
FEMALES.								
New South Wales ..	..	1.4	28.4	28.5	220.8	277.8	249.2	307.7
Victoria	..	1.4	25.5	26.2	175.3	202.8	200.8	230.4
Queensland	..	0.3	11.1	10.2	71.2	87.8	82.3	98.3
South Australia ..	..	0.3	6.0	5.2	47.4	53.7	53.4	59.2
Western Australia ..	..	0.3	4.8	4.7	33.2	38.9	38.0	43.9
Tasmania	..	..	2.2	2.1	16.3	18.7	18.5	20.8
Australia(*b*) ..	..	3.7	78.0	77.0	565.6	681.9	643.6	762.6
PERSONS.								
New South Wales ..	4.9	30.4	244.6	244.1	817.0	988.2	1066.5	1262.7
Victoria	4.4	25.1	188.4	190.0	574.8	672.6	767.6	887.7
Queensland	1.0	9.3	106.2	107.8	289.8	335.2	397.0	452.3
South Australia ..	1.1	6.5	60.6	59.6	175.1	207.3	236.8	273.4
Western Australia ..	1.0	5.5	52.2	49.5	132.9	153.3	186.1	208.3
Tasmania	0.5	1.8	23.7	24.6	63.2	77.9	87.4	104.3
Australia (*b*) ..	12.9	78.6	677.0	677.0	2060.7	2445.6	2750.6	3201.2

(*a*) Estimates for December, 1946 are subject to revision. (*b*) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Between July, 1939, and December, 1946, the occupied population of Australia (including Defence Forces but excluding unemployed, pensioners, retired, persons of independent means and dependants) increased by approximately 16.0 per cent. The proportionate increase in each State was as follows: New South Wales, 18.3; Victoria, 15.5; Queensland, 14.6; South Australia, 15.1; Western Australia, 10.4; Tasmania, 19.0. The figures for Victoria and Queensland in December, 1946, were adversely affected by industrial disputes and seasonal conditions respectively.

4. **Wage and Salary Earners in Employment—Australia**—Estimates are made monthly of wage and salary earners in employment (excluding employees in rural industry and female domestics in private homes), based on Pay-roll Tax returns and statistics of Commonwealth Government employment. Pay-roll Tax returns cover only a small proportion of wage earners on rural holdings, and practically no private domestic servants. It is not possible to obtain actual numbers of farm employees and private domestic servants except when a Census or quasi-Census such as Occupation Survey (1st June, 1945) is taken, but estimates have been made from time to time using available data. The next table shows the trend in that section of wage and salary earning employment which it is possible to estimate monthly.

Figures are given as at June, 1933 (Census) and July, 1939 (based on National Register). From July, 1941, (commencement of Pay-roll Tax returns) the estimates are available for each month, and the table shows the level at November, 1941 (just before the Pacific War commenced and when the number of male wage and salary earners in civilian work, excluding rural, had reached a maximum), at June of the years 1943, 1945 and 1946 and as at December, 1946 and March, 1947. (Current figures are published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.)

The table shows total male and female wage and salary earners in civil employment (excluding employees in rural industry and female private domestics) subdivided to show the extent of employment provided by Governmental authorities and by private employers respectively. Some principal industrial groups included in the total are shown separately and include both Governmental and private employees except in the case of retail trade for which there are no Governmental employees.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civil Employment, Industrial Groups: Australia, 1933 to 1947.

(*Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, and Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces.*)

(Thousands.)

Year and Month.	Total Employment.			Employment in Certain Industrial Groups.				
	Governmental. (*a*)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.
MALES.								
1933—June ..	262.2	729.8	992.0	36.3	251.7	164.4	212.2	
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1293.1	52.2	391.5	185.9	259.7	
1941—November	381.5	999.9	1381.4	54.1	509.8	197.6	102.2	118.3
1943—June ..	413.3	859.9	1273.2	45.2	520.7	195.7	71.7	89.3
1945—June(*b*)	399.9	894.3	1294.2	43.4	514.5	209.6	76.3	96.5
1946—June(*c*)	435.0	1071.5	1506.5	48.8	558.4	237.8	103.2	133.4
December (*c*)	456.6	1120.4	1577.0	50.5	561.0	250.7	115.7	145.8
1947—March(*c*)	465.7	1151.3	1617.0	59.3	578.4	252.4	114.3	149.7
FEMALES.								
1933—June ..	46.5	294.3	340.8	0.2	103.1	11.1	87.3	
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	12.6	114.9	
1941—November	76.3	503.5	579.8	0.5	198.2	22.1	106.4	47.7
1943—June ..	135.9	504.8	640.7	0.6	228.6	34.6	98.5	52.6
1945—June(*b*)	125.4	494.1	619.5	0.4	206.3	36.5	95.9	52.5
1946—June(*c*)	94.0	502.0	596.0	0.5	192.1	32.4	99.6	50.8
December (*c*)	89.5	521.3	610.8	0.5	194.4	31.8	108.7	51.6
1947—March(*c*)	91.0	526.0	617.0	0.5	199.7	32.3	103.5	52.6
PERSONS.								
1933—June ..	308.7	1024.1	1332.8	36.5	354.8	175.5	299.5	
1939—July ..	405.0	1325.2	1730.2	52.5	539.7	198.5	374.6	
1941—November	457.8	1503.4	1961.2	54.6	708.0	219.7	208.6	166.0
1943—June ..	549.2	1364.7	1913.9	45.8	749.3	230.3	170.2	141.9
1945—June(*b*)	525.3	1388.4	1913.7	43.8	720.8	246.1	172.2	149.0
1946—June(*c*)	529.0	1573.5	2102.5	49.3	750.5	270.2	202.8	184.2
December (*c*)	546.1	1641.7	2187.8	51.0	755.4	282.5	224.4	197.4
1947—March(*c*)	556.7	1677.3	2234.0	50.8	778.1	284.7	217.8	202.3

(*a*) Includes employees of Australian Government Authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) and of Allied Governments. (*b*) 1st June, 1945 (Occupation Survey). (*c*) Subject to revision.

5. **Wage and Salary Earners in Employment—States.**—Statistics of total employment of wage and salary earners (excluding rural and private domestic employment) since 1933 are shown for each State in the next table.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civil Employment : States, 1933 to 1947.

(Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, and Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces.)

(Thousands.)

Year and Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia (a)
MALES.							
1933—June ..	380.6	288.6	139.8	80.5	70.1	29.0	992.0
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	1293.1
1941—November	556.8	405.1	167.9	121.9	83.2	39.4	1381.4
1943—June ..	525.1	355.2	167.3	110.6	70.4	36.9	1273.2
1945—June(b) ..	534.1	359.1	168.7	109.8	75.5	39.5	1294.2
1946—June(c) ..	618.5	417.9	192.4	129.6	93.9	46.9	1506.5
December	674.4	430.9	205.4	136.0	100.2	49.2	1577.0
1947—March(c) ..	661.7	441.8	212.4	139.4	103.0	50.2	1617.0
FEMALES.							
1933—June ..	125.8	118.2	40.5	26.0	20.6	9.1	340.8
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	437.1
1941—November	229.3	192.8	62.6	45.6	32.6	15.2	579.8
1943—June ..	254.4	205.4	74.1	52.9	35.5	16.7	640.7
1945—June(b) ..	247.7	193.8	74.9	48.8	35.6	16.7	619.5
1946—June(c) ..	242.3	183.7	71.2	45.8	34.4	16.6	596.0
December	250.7	187.2	72.7	47.2	34.9	16.1	610.8
1947—March(c) ..	251.6	190.2	73.6	47.8	35.3	16.5	617.0
PERSONS.							
1933—June ..	506.4	406.8	180.3	106.5	90.7	38.1	1332.8
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	1730.2
1941—November	786.1	597.9	230.5	167.5	115.8	54.6	1961.2
1943—June ..	779.5	560.6	241.4	163.5	105.9	53.6	1913.9
1945—June(b) ..	781.8	552.9	243.6	158.6	111.1	56.2	1913.7
1946—June(c) ..	860.8	601.6	263.6	175.4	128.3	63.5	2102.5
December	898.1	618.1	278.1	183.2	135.1	65.3	2187.8
1947—March(c) ..	913.3	632.0	286.0	187.2	138.3	66.7	2234.0

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) 1st June, 1945 (Occupation Survey). (c) Subject to revision.

In all States except Queensland employment of male wage and salary earners in civilian work, excluding rural and private domestic, was higher in November, 1941, than at the outbreak of war. After that date, the male employment level commenced to decrease and continued to do so in most States until the second quarter of 1943–44. In Queensland, however, the downward movement was very slight. There was then a general, though slight, upward trend (except in South Australia) until the end of the war. Demobilization of the Defence Forces resulted in a rapid increase in male employment in all States in 1945–46 and 1946–47.

After the outbreak of war, female wage and salary earners (excluding rural workers and domestics in private homes) increased rapidly in all States. The peak level (646,000) was reached in December, 1943. From June to December, 1943 there was only a slight total increase. Victoria and South Australia had already passed their respective peaks of female employment. In January, 1946, female employment reached its lowest level (588,400) since January, 1942, having declined in all States after the end of the war, particularly in Victoria and South Australia. From January, 1946 to March, 1947, female employment increased in all States.

§ 2. Unemployment.

1. **Total Persons Unemployed.**—The total number of persons unemployed has been recorded only at the dates of the various censuses. The following table sets out the number of unemployed at the Censuses of 1911, 1921 and 1933, the National Register, 1939, the Civilian Register, 1943, and the Occupation Survey, 1945. Estimates have been inserted for June and December, 1946. The percentage which the unemployed bore at each time to all wage and salary earners, comprising those estimated to be in employment and those unemployed, is also shown. Of the total wage and salary earners shown below as being unemployed at the Census of 30th June, 1933, 1.4 per cent. was on account of sickness and accident.

Unemployment (All Causes): Australia.

Year and Month.	Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.			Percentage of Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	%	%	%
1911—April (Census)	48.0	8.3	56.3	4.3	2.7	4.0
1921—April ,,	139.4	21.5	160.9	10.7	5.7	9.6
1933—June (*a*) ,,	460.2	103.1	563.3	27.9	19.1	25.8
1939—July (*b*) ..	264.0	34.0	298.0	15.0	5.7	12.6
1943—June (*c*) ..	19.5	6.3	25.8	1.4	0.9	1.2
1945—June (*d*) ..	39.9	16.2	56.1	2.7	2.3	2.6
1946—June (*e*) ..	109.0	25.0	134.0	6.1	3.6	5.4
December (*e*) ..	66.4	16.3	82.7	3.6	2.4	3.3

(*a*) The figures shown for 1933 are in excess of those actually recorded at the Census, an allowance having been made for a number of youths and girls who would normally have been wage and salary earners, but who, on account of the economic depression, having never been employed, were not classed as wage and salary earners. (*b*) Derived from National Register, 1939. (*c*) Derived from Civilian Register, 1943. See comment below. (*d*) Derived from Occupation Survey, 1945. (*e*) Estimate, subject to revision.

The estimates and percentages of unemployment given above for periods subsequent to the Census of 1933 should be interpreted in conjunction with the notes below.

The estimates for 1939 were based on the National Register, which covered males aged 18–64 years, and data available from other sources. Owing to the absence of specific definition of an unemployed person on the Civil Registration card used in 1943, and use on the Occupation Survey (1945) card of the definition " a person normally working for wages but without a job on 1st June ", it appears that the 1943 and 1945 figures exclude some persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs at the dates of the surveys.

The proportion of wage earners unemployed in July, 1939, immediately prior to the 1939–45 War, was estimated at approximately 12½ per cent. In July, 1941, it was about 4 per cent. and by June, 1943, under conditions of intensive mobilization of man power for war purposes involuntary unemployment was practically nil. After August, 1945, considerable numbers of ex-Service personnel were idle prior to resuming civil employment. These persons were included in the estimates of numbers unemployed.

2. **Unemployment in Trade Unions.**—(i) *General.*—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment amongst trade unionists was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

From 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book*, *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and the Labour Reports. Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since 1st January, 1913. The quarterly figures show the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter: they include persons out of work through sickness but exclude persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs except those outside the industry who are indirectly affected. The yearly figures quoted represent the average of the four quarters.

The value of the percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns is in the indication they give of the trend of unemployment amongst trade unionists as reported by the secretaries of trade unions.

(ii) *Australia, 1891 to 1947* (June Quarter).—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1947 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

(*a*) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available; (*b*) The number of members of such unions; (*c*) The number of members unemployed; and (*d*) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment in Trade Unions: Australia.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	MEMBERS UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 (end of year) ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 „ „ ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 „ „ ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1906 „ „ ..	47	11,299	753	6.7
1911 „ „ ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1916 (average for year) ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1921 „ „ ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1926 „ „ ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1927 „ „ ..	375	445,985	31,032	7.0
1928 „ „ ..	375	423,422	45,669	10.8
1929 „ „ ..	382	424,093	47,359	11.1
1930 „ „ ..	395	438,874	84,767	19.3
1931 „ „ ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 „ „ ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0
1933 „ „ ..	394	415,305	104,035	25.1
1934 „ „ ..	394	424,035	86,865	20.5
1935 „ „ ..	396	435,938	71,823	16.5
1936 „ „ ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1937 „ „ ..	387	449,588	41,823	9.3
1938 „ „ ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.7
1939 „ „ ..	396	476,918	45,967	9.7

Unemployment in Trade Unions : Australia—*continued.*

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	MEMBERS UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1940 (average for year) ..	394	491,352	39,116	8.0
1941 ,, ,, ..	395	536,660	20,013	3.7
1942 ,, ,, ..	394	613,534	9,754	1.6
1943 ,, ,, ..	390	678,713	7,545	1.1
1944 ,, ,, ..	389	681,684	8,073	1.2
1945 ,, ,, ..	388	673,750	7,864	1.2
1946 ,, ,, ..	383	672,121	9,125	1.4
1944 March ,, ..	390	688,381	6,987	1.0
June ,, ..	389	683,463	9,433	1.4
September ,, ..	389	680,218	7,947	1.2
December ,, ..	389	674,695	7,925	1.2
1945 March ,, ..	388	683,632	7,616	1.1
June ,, ..	388	679,227	7,795	1.1
September ,, ..	387	668,674	7,769	1.2
December ,, ..	387	663,467	8,276	1.2
1946 March ,, ..	385	662,296	9,062	1.4
June ,, ..	385	661,432	8,757	1.3
September ,, ..	381	672,209	9,212	1.4
December ,, ..	381	692,546	9,468	1.4
1947 March ,, ..	381	699,155	9,880	1.4
June ,, ..	381	713,455	9,240	1.2

(iii) *Australia, by Industries*, 1945 and 1946.—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries or occupations in which employment is stable, such as railways, and those which are subject to exceptional fluctuations, such as wharf labour, agricultural, pastoral, etc., are not included. Other occupations—domestic, hotel employees, etc.—are included in the "Other and Miscellaneous" group, as their returns are not sufficiently representative.

Unemployment in Trade Unions, Industrial Groups : Australia, 1945 and 1946.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting.				Unemployed.			
	Unions.		Members.		Members.		Percentage.	
	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.
Manufacturing—								
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	16	17,589	19,448	135	152	0.8	0.8
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	61	59	204,755	190,497	1,771	1,434	0.9	0.7
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	54	54	40,825	42,738	937	1,088	2.3	2.5
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	22	22	57,126	57,635	487	772	0.9	1.3
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	12	12	24,699	26,515	101	117	0.4	0.5
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	64	62	57,837	50,067	1,175	1,324	2.1	2.7
VII. Building	46	46	57,074	60,719	814	1,106	1.4	1.8
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	22	22	28,111	28,306	887	893	3.2	3.2
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services	13	13	24,489	29,169	611	490	2.5	1.7
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	78	77	161,245	167,027	946	1,749	0.6	1.0
All Groups	388	383	673,750	672,121	7,864	9,125	1.2	1.4

(iv) *Australia, by Industries, September Quarter* 1939, *and Quarterly,* 1945 and 1946.—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the March quarter of 1945 to the December quarter of 1946. The percentage of unemployed in the September quarter 1939 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment in Trade Unions : Percentages by Industries, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1939.	1945.				1946.			
	Sept. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	18.1	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	8.6	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	18.4	2.5	2.5	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.9
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	13.3	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.6
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	5.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	9.9	1.7	1.8	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.4
VII. Building	9.3	1.0	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.7	2.1
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	12.6	3.1	3.0	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.6	3.4	2.7
X. Other Land Transport ..	8.7	2.7	3.2	2.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	2.2	1.5
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	7.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1
AUSTRALIA	10.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4

(v) *States,* 1945 *and* 1946.—In making interstate comparisons of unemployment percentages, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States, and that for some States the returns are a more representative sample than for others. The State percentages shown below, therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication of the trend of unemployment as reported by the Trade Unions. The figures in the following table show the position in each State for 1945 and 1946 :—

Unemployment in Trade Unions : 1945 and 1946.

State.	Unions Reporting.				Unemployed.			
	Number.		Members.		Number.		Percentage.	
	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.
New South Wales ..	110	109	287,842	284,514	4,328	4,319	1.5	1.5
Victoria	77	75	186,112	191,632	1,548	2,400	0.9	1.2
Queensland ..	45	45	90,066	87,006	634	768	0.7	0.9
South Australia ..	55	54	59,368	56,628	771	755	1.3	1.4
Western Australia ..	67	66	35,371	37,372	426	584	1.2	1.5
Tasmania	34	34	14,991	14,969	157	299	1.0	2.0
Australia ..	388	383	673,750	672,121	7,864	9,125	1.2	1.4

(vi) *States, 1931 to 1946 and Quarterly 1943 to June, 1947.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1942 were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1931 to 1946 and quarterly from 1943 to 1947 (June) :—

Unemployment in Trade Unions: Percentages.

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1931 Year	30.8	25.8	16.2	32.5	27.3	26.1	27.4
1932 ,, ...	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.0
1933 ,, ...	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934 ,, ...	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935 ,, ...	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936 ,, ...	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937 ,, ...	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.3
1938 ,, ...	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1939 ,, ...	11.0	10.4	5.9	9.3	7.1	8.1	9.7
1940 ,, ...	11.0	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.6	5.2	8.0
1941 ,, ...	4.7	2.5	4.5	2.7	2.9	3.3	3.7
1942 ,, ...	1.8	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.6
1943 ,, ...	1.4	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.1
1944 ,, ...	1.6	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.2
1945 ,, ...	1.5	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.2
1946 ,, ...	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.4
1943 March Qtr. ..	1.4	0.8	1.5	1.0	1.6	1.3	1.2
June ,, ..	1.3	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.1
Sept. ,, ..	1.3	0.7	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.2	1.1
Dec. ,, ..	1.4	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.1
1944 March Qtr. ..	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.5	0.7	1.0
June ,, ..	1.9	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.9	0.7	1.4
Sept. ,, ..	1.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.9	1.2
Dec. ,, ..	1.6	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.7	1.2
1945 March Qtr. ..	1.5	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.7	1.1
June ,, ..	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.5	1.1	0.8	1.1
Sept. ,, ..	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2
Dec. ,, ..	1.5	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.2
1946 March Qtr. ..	1.5	1.3	0.8	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.4
June ,, ..	1.6	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.3
Sept. ,, ..	1.5	1.3	0.8	1.3	1.5	2.3	1.4
Dec. ,, ..	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.6	2.3	1.4
1947 March Qtr. ..	1.5	1.6	0.8	1.1	1.4	2.2	1.4
June ,, ..	1.4	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	2.4	1.2

(vii) *Causes of Unemployment.*—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(*a*) lack of work; (*b*) sickness and accident; and (*c*) other causes. The returns from trade unions for past years show that while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentages of members unemployed through sickness and accident, and through other causes, have remained uniform at 0.7 per cent. and 0.2 per cent., respectively.

3. **Unemployment, Various Countries**—In the following table, the percentage of unemployment in various countries is shown for each month of 1946. The figures are obtained chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

Unemployment in various Countries during 1946.

Country.	Percentage Unemployed in Month of—												Average for Year.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Australia (*a*) ..	..	1.4	..	..	1.3	..	..	1.4	..	..	1.4	..	1.4
Canada (*b*) ..	..	4.7	..	..	..	2.6	..	2.4	..	..	2.4	..	3.0
Denmark(*c*) ..	13.2	8.2	7.4	4.4	3.0	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.8	3.2	10.0	4.7
Ireland (*d*) ..	11.8	12.7	11.4	10.8	10.7	9.9	9.6	10.1	9.4	8.9	9.6	9.9	10.6
Norway (*e*) ..	3.9	3.7	3.4	2.7	1.7	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.6	2.0
Sweden (*f*) ..	5.5	5.4	4.5	3.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.8	4.9	3.2
Switzerland (*g*) ..	4.2	2.6	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	2.5	1.0
United States (*h*) ..	4.3	4.9	4.9	4.1	4.0	4.4	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.9

(*a*) Returns from trade unions representing 56 per cent. of total trade union membership. (*b*) Estimates based on quarterly sample surveys of the labour force, each of which refers to a specific week. (*c*) Insured workers unemployed for more than one week. (*d*) Compulsory unemployment insurance returns. (*e*) Employment exchange returns. (*f*) Trade union returns. (*g*) Wholly unemployed. (*h*) Estimates based on nation wide interviews with a given percentage of the total persons of working age, selected at random, at their places of residence.

§ 3. Commonwealth Employment Service.

The Commonwealth Employment Service was established under Section 47 of the Re-Establishment and Employment Act of 1945, and under the Social Services Legislation Declaratory Act 1947.

The principal function of this Service, as set out in Section 48 of the first-mentioned Act, is to provide services and facilities in relation to employment for the benefit of persons seeking to change employment, or to engage labour, and to provide facilities to assist in bringing about and maintaining a high and stable level of employment throughout the Commonwealth. The Act also gives the Service a number of specific functions in relation to the re-establishment of ex-servicemen and war workers.

The Service also assists in the administration of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits, provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947, as well as the Re-Employment Allowance, provided under the Re-Establishment and Employment Act for certain classes of discharged members of the Forces. All persons who wish to claim unemployment benefits or re-employment allowances must register with their residential Employment Office which is responsible for checking the claim and arranging for payment of benefit, if appropriate, and if no suitable employment can be offered to the applicant.

The Service functions within the Employment Division of the Department of Labour and National Service, and is under the control of a Director of Employment. It functions on a decentralized basis. The Central Office is in Sydney, and there are State Head Offices in each of the capital cities, with 153 District Employment Offices in suburban and the larger provincial centres, and with some 500 agents in the smaller country centres who are responsible to the various District Employment Offices. The District Offices are distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 57: Victoria, 39; Queensland, 22: South Australia, 15; Western Australia, 15; Tasmania, 5.

The Service completed its first year of operation in May, 1947, and statistics of the principal items of business transacted are contained in the following table :—

Commonwealth Employment Service—Operations for the Year Ended April, 1947 : Australia.

(Persons.)

Month.	Applicants for Employment			Vacancies.		Persons receiving Advice or Information.	Discharges (ex-Service) dealt with.
	New Registrations.	Referred to Employers.	Placed in Employment.	New Notifications during month.	Unfilled at end of month.		
1946—May ..	53,495	31,298	18,408	36,004	48,243	39,659	32,706
June ..	42,101	26,176	16,490	24,784	52,630	37,168	24,589
July ..	44,556	28,046	16,852	26,682	55,062	44,740	19,496
August ..	34,221	28,702	17,512	33,908	60,107	46,279	16,242
September	32,604	26,957	16,873	30,860	62,812	46,258	12,115
October ..	32,901	27,803	17,409	28,489	64,174	49,394	9,564
November	45,531	26,217	15,046	27,395	58,808	50,520	7,306
December	30,562	17,363	11,167	17,147	51,593	43,685	7,344
1947—January ..	45,828	29,941	17,965	31,239	57,807	52,798	8,942
February ..	41,567	34,914	23,485	41,472	62,179	48,063	4,324
March ..	37,094	31,850	20,165	31,777	60,818	44,710	3,536
April ..	33,967	28,484	17,202	28,419	58,124	32,346	3,065
Total ..	474,427	337,751	208,574	358,176	..	535,620	149,229
Monthly Average	39,536	28,146	17,381	29,848	57,696	44,635	12,436

§ 4. State Labour Exchanges.

With the setting up of the Commonwealth Employment Service referred to in the preceding section most of the State Labour Exchange Organizations existing previously have been superseded. Details concerning the organization and administration of these exchanges in the several States are given in Labour Report No. 30, page 133.

§ 5. Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits.

1. **General.**—A very important addition was made to Commonwealth social legislation when the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act (from 1st July, 1947, incorporated in the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947) received the Royal Assent on 5th April, 1944.

The Act came into operation on 1st July, 1945, and is financed from the National Welfare Fund. The first payments were made on 19th July, 1945.

Persons eligible include all males between the ages of 16 and 65 years and all females between the ages of 16 and 60 years who have lived in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding a claim for benefit and who are not qualified to receive a Service pension under the Soldier's Repatriation Act or an invalid, age or widows' pension.

The payment of unemployment benefit is subject to the claimant being capable of undertaking and willing to accept suitable employment. Except where the applicant lives in remote or inaccessible areas of Australia or where for some good reason it is impossible to do so, the payment of sickness benefit is subject to the production of a medical certificate or some other satisfactory evidence.

2. **Rate of Benefit.**—The rate of benefit for both unemployment and sickness is as follows :—

Unmarried male or female—	s.	d.	
16 years and under 17 years	15	0	per week.
17 ,, ,, ,, 18 years	15	0	per week.
18 ,, ,, ,, 21 years	20	0	per week.
21 years and over	25	0	per week.

A married person, whether adult or minor, may receive an additional 20s. per week for a dependent spouse and 5s. per week for an unendowed child.

All benefits are subject to a means test which disregards the value of property owned by claimant and permits the possession of income up to the following amounts :—

Unmarried male and female—	s.	d.	
16 years and under 17 years	5	0	per week.
17 ,, ,, ,, 18 years	10	0	per week.
18 ,, ,, ,, 21 years	15	0	per week.
In all other cases	20	0	per week.

3. **Means Test.**—In applying the means test for sickness benefit, any amount up to 20s. per week received by claimant from a friendly society or other approved benefit society is disregarded. For the purpose of calculating unemployment benefit, the income of the family group is taken into account, but in the case of sickness benefit the claimant's income only will be considered in determining whether there shall be reduction in benefit because of the possession of other income.

Where a person is entitled to some other payment such as war pension or workers' compensation in respect of the disability for which he claims sickness benefit, payment will be made only to the extent to which such other payment is less than the amount of benefit.

In the case of unemployment the Act provides for payment of benefit for the duration of the unemployment, and in the case of sickness for the duration of temporary incapacity. Where incapacity through sickness becomes permanent, an invalid pension may be granted, subject to the conditions governing the grant of invalid pensions.

4. **Waiting Period.**—There is a waiting period of seven days in respect of which unemployment or sickness benefit is not payable.

5. **Special Benefit.**—In cases of hardship where a person is not qualified for either sickness or unemployment benefit by reason of his inability to comply with one or other of the statutory requirements, a special benefit, at a rate not exceeding that which might otherwise have been payable, may be authorized.

6. **Administration.**—For convenience of administration, Commonwealth Employment Service Officers act as Registrars and in their offices are officers of the Department of Social Services to attend to the detailed duties. Payment of benefits is made by cheque issued by the Deputy-Director of Social Services in the metropolitan areas and by Registrars in country districts.

7. **Unemployment Benefits.**—(i) *Number on Benefit*—The following table shows the number of persons on benefit at the end of each month July, 1945, to December, 1946 :—

Number of Persons on Unemployment Benefit at End of Each Month.(*a*)

Month.	Persons.						Australia.		
	New South Wales. (*b*)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (*c*)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1945—July	94	74	62	17	28	6	266	15	281
August ..	124	87	48	27	45	7	322	16	338
September ..	157	101	77	65	59	21	456	24	480
October ..	365	149	124	113	72	26	787	62	849
November ..	768	206	199	107	93	26	1,286	113	1,399
December ..	30,679	553	624	7,635	214	32	32,406	7,331	39,737
1946—January ..	2,056	466	1,689	683	322	35	5,061	190	5,251
February ..	1,181	393	2,684	359	542	57	5,053	163	5,216
March	1,546	362	2,733	273	709	75	5,455	243	5,698
April	1,121	412	3,225	314	910	79	5,772	289	6,061
May	1,166	475	3,347	329	1,047	73	6,153	284	6,437
June	1,298	579	3,311	326	1,276	83	6,576	297	6,873
July	1,420	648	2,910	324	1,357	97	6,459	297	6,756
August	1,663	680	2,508	231	1,285	108	6,209	266	6,475
September ..	1,589	578	2,610	153	1,203	114	6,017	230	6,247
October ..	1,590	500	2,871	141	1,021	110	6,013	220	6,233
November ..	1,622	5,204	4,102	318	1,317	96	12,312	347	12,659
December ..	2,764	6,300	6.575	377	1,221	94	16,836	495	17,331

(*a*) Last Saturday of month. (*b*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*c*) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) *Payments made.*—The amounts paid in unemployment benefits for the months July, 1945, to December, 1946 are shown in the following table :—

Unemployment Benefit Payments During Each Month.

Month.	New South Wales.(*a*)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (*b*)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1945—July ..	51	99	8	23	38	13	232
August ..	728	668	77	219	273	43	2,008
September	877	656	428	175	306	71	2,513
October ..	1,514	770	612	665	494	184	4,239
November ..	2,897	1,169	1,285	876	807	245	7,279
December	12,203	1,145	1,684	1,610	574	203	17,419
1946—January ..	132,872	5,118	5,893	52,140	1,910	573	198,506
February ..	82,086	3,727	12,809	7,543	2,987	115	109,267
March ..	9,422	3,222	21,286	2,868	4,986	546	42,330
April ..	9,998	3,217	12,894	1,944	5,863	589	34,505
May ..	13,215	3,801	22,068	2,702	8,921	724	51,431
June ..	9,342	4,642	29,094	2,461	9,281	521	55,341
July ..	10,013	4,111	35,164	3,045	10,462	623	63,418
August ..	12,452	6,098	32,290	2,181	11,726	755	65,502
September	12,702	5,102	19,999	1,998	10,277	965	51,043
October ..	12,379	5,195	19,090	927	10,142	993	48,726
November ..	14,182	5,008	21,528	900	15,102	771	57,491
December	12,339	35,604	27,194	2,567	12,357	730	90,791

(*a*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory.
NOTE.—Benefits are paid weekly in arrears.

§ 6. Relief of Unemployment.

The steps taken by the Commonwealth and State Governments during the depression commencing in 1930 to provide relief of unemployment, and the legislation enacted in the years 1930 to 1941, are briefly reviewed in the various Labour Reports up to No. 31, and particulars relating to the year 1941 were shown on pages 105 to 125 of No. 31, 1941.

With the enormous expansion of industry over the war-time period, however, practically all employable persons were absorbed, and the few remaining merely represented the small body of unemployables always present in the community for whom the regular eleemosynary reliefs are available.

§ 7. Industrial Disputes.

1. **General.**—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lockouts) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 34 while particulars for the years 1945 and 1946 are shown in the following table.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups.**—(i) *Year* 1945.—The following table deals with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1945 in industrial groups.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1945 was 945, as compared with 941 during the previous year. In New South Wales 845 disputes occurred in 1945, 684 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1945 amounted to 2,119,641 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 912,752 working days lost during 1944. The estimated loss of wages was £2,567,444 in 1945, as compared with £1,111,729 for the year 1944.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1945.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly	Indirectly.	Total.		
	New South Wales—							£
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	55	59	22,453	1,467	23,920	784,381	880,604
III.	Food, drink, etc.	25	25	8,066	68	8,134	46,520	48,300
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	2	454	..	454	2,776	2,100
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	4	113	3,218	18	3,236	154,964	185,056
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	17	51	8,156	287	8,443	115,221	116,560
VII.	Building	2	3	201	..	201	806	1,047
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	684	857	178,219	13,459	191,678	593,782	884,664
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	3	3	1,350	174	1,524	22,677	38,852
IX.	Railway and tramway services	16	16	6,641	..	6,641	7,018	7,343
X.	Other land transport ..	1	1	130	..	130	130	150
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	29	29	16,249	..	16,249	57,861	71,783
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	2	32	200	..	200	3,470	3,540
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	12	..	12	216	150
XIV.	Miscellaneous	4	9	937	..	937	3,035	1,031
	Total	845	1,201	246,286	15,473	261,759	1,792,857	2,241,180
	Victoria—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	11	11	447	..	447	3,645	4,400
III.	Food, drink, etc.	10	10	1,027	..	1,027	13,903	12,156
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	4	4	533	..	533	1,822	1,591
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	3	3	64	65	129	1,032	998
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	23,939	..	23,939	23,939	23,152
X.	Other land transport ..	2	2	3,015	..	3,015	6,010	6,531
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	3	3	137	..	137	857	800
	Total	34	34	29,162	65	29,227	51,208	49,628
	Queensland—							
I.	Wood furniture, etc. ..	1	250	4,000	..	4,000	68,000	70,000
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	60	3,500	..	3,500	3,500	3,500
III.	Food, drink, etc.	5	9	1,222	..	1,222	14,494	14,133
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	119	..	119	321	523
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	5	10	1,023	..	1,023	7,490	11,167
IX.	Railway and tramway services	6	6	2,454	99	2,553	20,445	23,350
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	3	3	1,653	..	1,653	3,431	3,536
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	1	20	1,500	..	1,500	90,000	80,000
XIV.	Miscellaneous	3	3	173	..	173	322	274
	Total	27	363	15,644	99	15,743	208,003	206,483

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1945—*continued.*

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
	South Australia—							£
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	3	4	129	16	145	2,386	2,297
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	93	..	93	93	45
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	1	1	178	..	178	1,246	1,200
VII.	Building	1	1	150	..	150	375	400
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	1	1	22	..	22	66	72
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	1,337	..	1,337	3,786	3,595
X.	Other land transport ..	1	1	1,806	..	1,806	19,866	19,000
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	2	2	82	..	82	1,052	1,140
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	22	..	22	44	19
	Total	13	14	3,819	16	3,835	28,914	27,768
	Western Australia—							
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	1	131	..	131	164	190
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	2	3	183	..	183	896	1,036
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	12	..	12	30	30
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	8	402	..	402	9,162	8,145
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	127	..	127	715	750
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	3	5	1,439	644	2,083	9,974	11,760
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	548	..	548	1,644	1,666
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	211	..	211	251	259
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	2	2	105	..	105	9,655	11,403
	Total	16	25	3,158	644	3,802	32,491	35,239
	Tasmania—							
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	3	3	43	..	43	293	310
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	52	..	52	156	210
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	303	..	303	606	643
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	4	5	1,174	..	1,174	5,113	5,983
	Total	10	11	1,572	..	1,572	6,168	7,146
	Australia—							
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	5	254	4,174	..	4,174	68,457	70,500
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	72	137	26,712	1,483	28,195	794,808	891,837
III.	Food, drink, etc.	43	47	10,472	68	10,540	75,196	74,874
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	8	14	1,389	..	1,389	13,760	11,836
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	4	113	3,218	18	3,236	154,964	185,056
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	27	61	8,947	352	9,299	119,141	120,674
VII.	Building	3	4	351	..	351	1,181	1,447
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	693	875	180,703	14,103	194,806	611,312	907,663
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	4	4	1,898	174	2,072	24,321	40,518
IX.	Railway and tramway services	27	27	34,582	99	34,681	55,439	57,699
X.	Other land transport ..	4	4	4,951	..	4,951	26,006	25,681
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	43	44	19,400	..	19,400	77,969	94,645
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	3	52	1,700	..	1,700	93,470	83,540
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	2	2	34	..	34	260	169
XIV.	Miscellaneous	7	10	1,110	..	1,110	3,357	1,305
	Total (*a*)	945	1,648	299,641	16,297	315,938	2,119,641	2,567,444

(*a*) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at, the end of the year 1944, and in respect of " Number of Disputes ", and " Establishments Involved " are duplicated in the figures for 1945.

State.	Number of Disputes.	Establishments Involved.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Victoria	1	1	24	..	24
South Australia	1	1	20	..	20
Western Australia	1	1	1,140	..	1,140

(ii) *Year* 1946.—In the following table industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1946 are classified according to industrial groups.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1946 was 869, as compared with 945 during the previous year. In New South Wales 771 disputes occurred in 1946, 682 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1946 amounted to 1,947,844 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 2,119,641 working days lost during 1945. The estimated loss of wages was £2,290,147 in 1946, as compared with £2,567,444 for the year 1945.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1946.

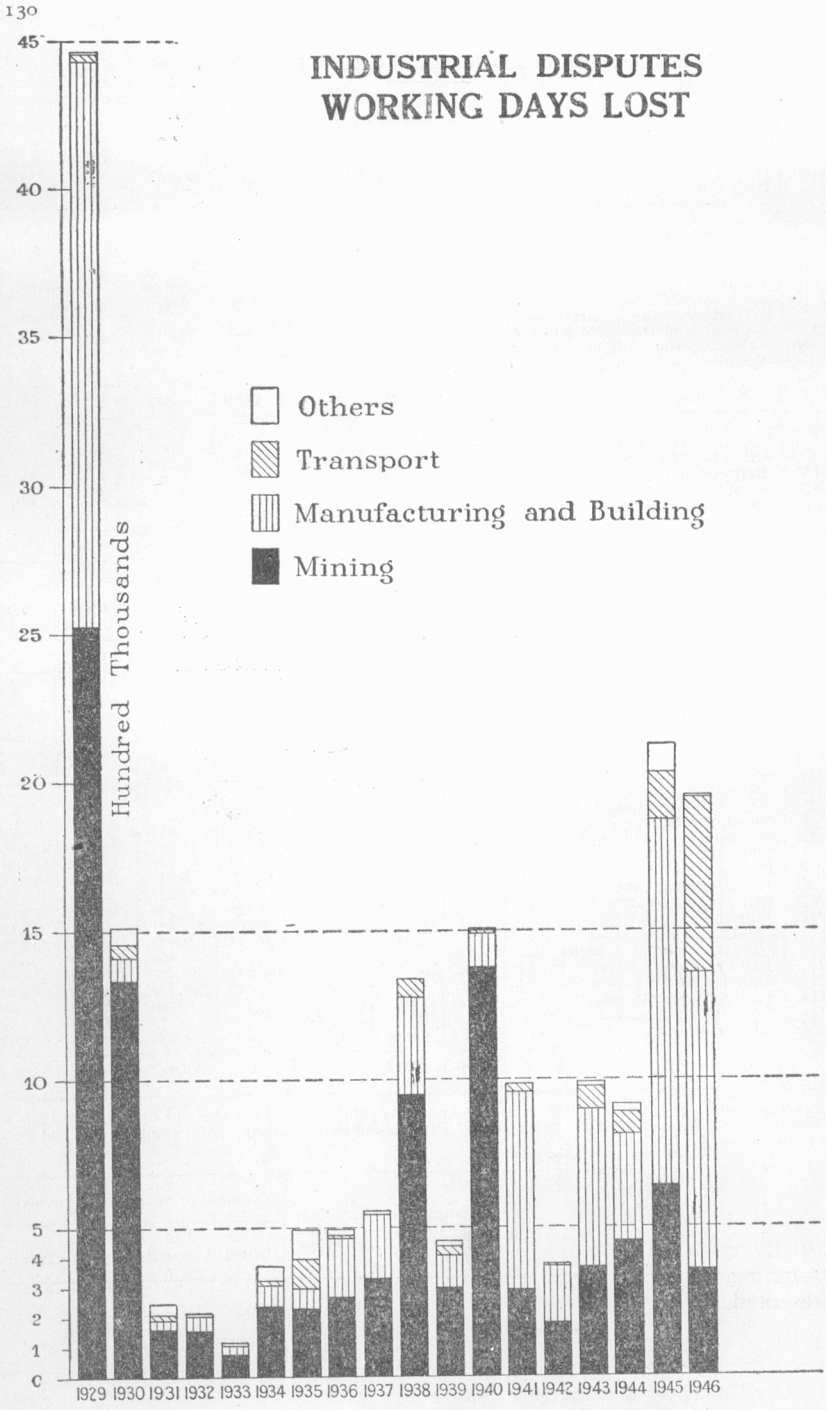
Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
								£
	New South Wales—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	26	328	24,835	2,045	26,880	206,555	242,183
III.	Food, drink, etc.	11	68	2,968	81	3,049	33,590	39,408
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	5	607	..	607	15,089	13,144
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	10	73	5,529	..	5,529	22,359	26,038
VII.	Building	1	1	28	..	28	896	1,000
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	682	729	153,796	6,922	160,718	297,316	454,602
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	2	2	660	..	660	3,300	4,025
IX.	Railway and tramway services	8	9	9,576	..	9,576	12,350	13,565
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	21	161	21,250	..	21,250	125,876	145,566
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	35	..	35	315	300
XIV.	Miscellaneous	7	12	1,168	..	1,168	1,911	2,152
	Total	771	1,389	220,452	9,048	229,500	719,557	941,983
	Victoria—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	6	95	2,014	1,807	3,821	186,619	187,158
III.	Food, drink, etc.	7	8	840	175	1,015	3,886	3,923
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	2	89	..	89	3,503	3,066
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	1	3	275	..	275	725	797
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	4	12	1,789	76	1,865	26,816	29,652
VII.	Building	4	4	96	..	96	2,796	3,160
IX.	Railway and tramway services	5	6	62,446	542	62,988	244,251	274,897
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	5	56	6,268	..	6,268	37,894	40,102
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	140	400	..	400	800	900
	Total	35	326	74,217	2,600	76,817	507,290	543,655
	Queensland—							
III.	Food, drink, etc.	10	23	9,068	20	9,088	474,245	515,944
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	1	1	60	..	60	300	330
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	1	12	3,000	..	3,000	51,000	76,000
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	2,543	70	2,613	30,256	31,746
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	8	52	8,651	..	8,651	57,888	70,433
	Total	22	90	23,322	90	23,412	613,689	694,453
	South Australia.							
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	1	116	..	116	232	228
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	70	1,270	1,340	1,550	1,720
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	42	..	42	126	130
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	4	4	813	..	813	17,016	17,634
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	5,395	..	5,395	5,395	5,030
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	8	23	2,477	16	2,493	4,611	6,703
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	28	..	28	84	80
	Total	18	33	8,941	1,286	10,227	29,014	31,525

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1946—*continued.*

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total		
	Western Australia—							£
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	1	140	..	140	480	500
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	87	..	87	87	129
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	336	..	336	486	538
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	1	3	236	..	236	2,050	2,600
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	9	..	9	270	500
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	1,357	3,659	5,016	64,548	62,044
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	3	8	459	..	459	1,313	1,518
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	80	..	80	400	500
	Total	11	18	2,704	3,659	6,363	69,634	68,329
	Tasmania—							
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	1	1	63	..	63	126	115
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	322	..	322	1,610	1,460
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	5	12	1,250	..	1,250	4,070	4,881
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	1	1	40	..	40	840	600
	Total	8	15	1,675	..	1,675	6,646	7,056
	Northern Territory—							
VII.	Building	1	1	430	..	430	1,860	2,960
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	97	..	97	97	140
	Total	2	2	527	..	527	1,957	3,100
	Australian Capital Territory—							
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	8	10	..	10	40	46
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	17	..	17	17	..
	Total	2	9	27	..	27	57	46
	Australia—							
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	2	2	256	..	256	712	728
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	34	425	27,006	5,122	32,128	394,871	431,190
III.	Food, drink, etc.	31	109	13,264	276	13,540	512,373	559,989
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	4	7	696	..	696	18,592	16,210
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	1	3	275	..	275	725	797
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	20	91	8,254	76	8,330	66,617	73,769
VII.	Building	6	6	554	..	554	5,552	7,120
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	684	744	157,032	6,922	163,954	350,366	533,202
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	3	3	669	..	669	3,570	4,525
IX.	Railway and tramway services	21	23	81,736	4,271	86,007	358,507	388,882
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	50	312	40,355	16	40,371	231,652	269,203
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	1	1	40	..	40	840	600
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	2	2	52	..	52	332	300
XIV.	Miscellaneous	10	154	1,676	..	1,676	3,195	3,632
	Total (*a*)	869	1,882	331,865	16,683	348,548	1,947,844	2,290,147

(*a*) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at, the end of the year 1945, and in respect of "Number of Disputes", and "Establishments Involved" are duplicated in the figures for 1946.

State.	Number of Disputes.	Establishments Involved.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
New South Wales	3	3	610	226	836
Victoria	1	1	31	..	31



EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1929 and comparing the sections with the scale, it will be seen that about 2,528,000 working days were lost in Mining, 1,901,000 in Manufacturing and Building, 30,000 in Transport, and about 3,000 in other industries. Total, 4,462,000 days.

3. **Industrial Disputes, 1939, 1942 to 1946.**—(i) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1942 to 1946, with the aggregate for the same period. Figures for the year 1939 have also been inserted.

Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Year.	Manufacturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscellaneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			Coal-mining.	Other Mining.			
			NUMBER.				
1939 ..	20	3	362	4	6	21	416
1942 ..	120	13	447	1	12	9	602
1943 ..	179	13	550	4	22	17	785
1944 ..	199	11	660	8	40	23	941
1945 ..	159	3	693	4	74	12	945
1946 ..	92	6	684	3	71	13	869
1942–46 ..	749	46	3,034	20	219	74	4,142
			WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.				
1939 ..	8,818	57	137,792	900	2,017	3,246	152,830
1942 ..	47,689	1,900	112,031	306	6,468	869	169,263
1943 ..	106,043	19,976	148,649	1,865	12,293	6,377	296,103
1944 ..	65,629	1,494	158,838	6,452	36,473	7,472	276,358
1945 ..	56,833	351	194,806	2,072	59,032	2,844	315,938
1946 ..	55,225	554	163,954	669	126,378	1,768	348,548
1942–46 ..	332,319	24,275	778,278	11,364	240,644	19,330	1,406,210
			WORKING DAYS LOST.				
1939 ..	108,709	563	291,067	3,805	35,016	19,994	459,154
1942 ..	187,049	6,450	177,565	1,224	3,924	1,983	378,195
1943 ..	407,524	125,247	326,231	39,764	79,529	11,856	990,151
1944 ..	340,604	21,204	389,582	60,486	74,913	25,963	912,752
1945 ..	1,226,326	1,181	611,312	24,321	159,414	97,087	2,119,641
1946 ..	993,830	5,552	350,366	3,570	590,159	4,367	1,947,844
1942–46 ..	3,155,333	159,634	1,855,056	129,365	907,939	141,256	6,348,583
			ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1939 ..	83,540	424	335,033	4,728	22,114	9,877	455,716
1942 ..	179,880	7,193	260,868	1,400	5,289	1,460	456,090
1943 ..	385,848	149,344	480,008	46,900	82,941	8,465	1,153,506
1944 ..	347,656	23,129	576,360	64,709	79,425	20,450	1,111,729
1945 ..	1,354,777	1,447	907,663	40,518	178,025	85,014	2,567,444
1946 ..	1,082,683	7,120	533,202	4,525	658,085	4,532	2,290,147
1942–46 ..	3,350,844	188,233	2,758,101	158,052	1,003,765	119,921	7,578,916

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII.). For the years 1945 and 1946 these disputes represented 73 and 79 per cent. respectively of the annual total.

During the five years 1942–46, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 1,855,056, representing 29 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any other State.

(ii) *States.*—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1939 and 1943 to 1946, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given in the following table :—

Industrial Disputes: States.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
								£
New South Wales ..	1939	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	419,330
	1943	689	2,771	250,754	5,623	256,377	796,511	971,069
	1944	801	921	213,007	8,175	221,182	575,305	760,380
	1945	845	1,201	246,286	15,473	261,759	1,792,857	2,241,180
	1946	771	1,389	220,452	9,048	229,500	719,557	941,983
Victoria	1939	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946
	1943	40	1,070	19,042	217	19,259	76,686	65,409
	1944	53	89	13,348	294	13,642	72,618	73,223
	1945	34	34	29,162	65	29,227	51,208	49,628
	1946	35	326	74,217	2,600	76,817	507,290	543,655
Queensland.. ..	1939	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
	1943	20	114	8,990	302	9,292	58,895	62,629
	1944	23	32	8,493	..	8,493	63,084	67,401
	1945	27	363	15,644	99	15,743	208,003	206,483
	1946	22	90	23,322	90	23,412	613,689	694,453
South Australia ..	1939	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
	1943	24	442	7,602	841	8,443	19,420	13,490
	1944	30	71	18,250	3,230	21,480	76,086	80,614
	1945	13	14	3,819	16	3,835	28,914	27,768
	1946	18	33	8,941	1,286	10,227	29,014	31,525
Western Australia ..	1939	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
	1943	10	82	1,594	950	2,544	38,438	40,733
	1944	30	75	7,161	3,867	11,028	89,984	93,601
	1945	16	25	3,158	644	3,802	32,491	35,239
	1946	11	18	2,704	3,659	6,363	69,634	68,329
Tasmania	1939	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
	1943	2	2	46	142	188	201	176
	1944	4	4	533	..	533	35,675	36,510
	1945	10	11	1,572	..	1,572	6,168	7,146
	1946	8	15	1,675	..	1,675	6,646	7,056
Northern Territory ..	1939	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
	1943	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1944	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1945	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1946	2	2	527	..	527	1,957	3,100
Aust. Cap. Territory..	1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1943	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1944	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1945	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1946	2	9	27	..	27	57	46
Australia . ..	1939	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716
	1943	785	4,481	288,028	8,075	296,103	990,151	1,153,506
	1944	941	1,192	260,792	15,566	276,358	912,752	1,111,729
	1945	945	1,648	299,641	16,297	315,938	2,119,641	2,567,444
	1946	869	1,882	331,865	16,683	348,548	1,947,844	2,290,147

4. **Duration of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted :—(*a*) One day and less ; (*b*) two days and more than one day ; (*c*) three days and more than two days ; (*d*) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week) ; (*e*) one week and under two weeks ; (*f*) two weeks and under four weeks ; (*g*) four weeks and under eight weeks ; and (*h*) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1939, 1943 *to* 1946.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1939 and 1943 to 1946 are given in the following table :—

Duration of Industrial Disputes : Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
							£
1 day and less	1939	230	96,184	1,191	97,375	97,375	106,970
	1943	461	167,539	1,855	169,394	168,220	211,654
	1944	524	136,497	9,856	146,353	143,859	170,389
	1945	534	149,837	1,606	151,443	157,666	217,811
	1946	567	197,281	5,045	202,326	200,636	287,707
2 days and more than 1 day	1939	60	16,398	872	17,270	34,540	35,648
	1943	107	32,337	312	32,649	64,278	78,876
	1944	136	39,276	1,994	41,270	77,704	97,995
	1945	140	44,370	10,647	55,017	109,959	149,450
	1946	107	25,034	1,708	26,742	52,252	74,192
3 days and more than 2 days	1939	38	10,103	1,374	11,477	34,431	36,427
	1943	59	18,445	1,606	20,051	59,864	73,869
	1944	67	21,949	772	22,721	67,140	86,073
	1945	76	17,954	383	18,337	53,225	68,547
	1946	46	8,700	722	9,422	28,023	41,461
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (6 days)	1939	34	7,540	404	7,944	36,387	37,056
	1943	64	28,159	2,507	30,666	137,010	175,832
	1944	87	23,961	6	23,967	105,599	142,327
	1945	35	12,877	157	13,034	53,571	74,775
	1946	52	18,623	1,568	20,191	83,660	117,996
1 week and less than 2 weeks	1939	34	6,864	2,169	9,033	75,323	67,736
	1943	52	15,041	419	15,460	130,791	141,057
	1944	90	27,819	826	28,645	250,148	282,699
	1945	90	38,398	1,656	40,054	307,931	415,667
	1946	42	55,796	40	55,836	433,442	495,826
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1939	10	5,002	3,224	8,226	116,182	116,882
	1943	30	23,767	403	24,170	264,312	290,058
	1944	29	10,298	1,137	11,435	195,609	253,177
	1945	35	11,981	313	12,294	170,404	203,773
	1946	28	13,715	3,982	17,697	252,164	306,664
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1939	6	618	307	925	25,463	15,908
	1943	7	1,330	23	1,353	41,369	52,675
	1944	7	973	25	998	27,693	33,069
	1945	12	5,487	387	5,874	155,677	162,147
	1946	16	3,112	1,596	4,708	154,794	165,773
8 weeks and over	1939	4	519	61	580	39,453	39,089
	1943	5	1,410	950	2,360	124,307	129,485
	1944	1	19	950	969	45,000	46,000
	1945	23	18,737	1,148	19,885	1,111,208	1,275,274
	1946	11	9,604	2,022	11,626	742,873	800,528
Total	1939	416	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716
	1943	785	288,028	8,075	296,103	990,151	1,153,506
	1944	941	260,792	15,566	276,358	912,752	1,111,729
	1945	945	299,641	16,297	315,938	2,119,641	2,567,444
	1946	869	331,865	16,683	348,548	1,947,844	2,290,147

5. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, namely :—(1) Wages ; (2) hours of labour ; (3) trade unionism ; (4) employment of particular classes or persons ; (5) working conditions ; (6) sympathy ; and (7) other causes.* The first three groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years 1913, 1939 and 1941 to 1946.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
				NUMBER.				
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	42	13	46	8	27	18	19	30
(b) Against decrease ..	4	4	4	2	1	1	2	..
(c) Other wage questions	31	58	102	107	132	134	131	112
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	3	12	2	1	5	1	2	2
(b) Other disputes re hours	7	9	10	8	11	16	13	14
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists..	8	1	8	9	6	13	7	1
(b) Other union questions	5	48	28	24	30	32	69	64
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	107	154	139	194	230	243	205
5. Working conditions ..	51	90	81	132	200	266	268	273
6. Sympathy	5	1	15	14	21	19	32	12
7. Other causes	8	73	117	158	158	211	159	156
Total	208	416	567	602	785	941	945	869
				WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.				
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	8,633	4,384	12,157	2,150	10,441	4,440	4,929	91,423
(b) Against decrease ..	563	279	848	957	44	300	52	..
(c) Other wage questions	7,160	17,094	32,403	32,025	52,055	33,566	37,861	27,903
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	460	4,150	1,432	85	6,905	24	3,023	249
(b) Other disputes re hours	1,819	3,383	3,720	1,630	5,430	7,912	7,550	8,888
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists..	5,370	21	912	1,797	2,944	3,788	1,700	116
(b) Other union questions	1,418	16,030	10,392	5,302	10,799	7,091	21,954	11,970
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	28,691	43,889	41,402	60,391	59,576	80,238	58,133
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	28,092	30,051	29,908	45,698	73,733	63,505	95,900
6. Sympathy	947	2,600	10,855	7,977	11,593	11,118	22,392	10,849
7. Other causes	1,758	48,106	101,448	46,030	89,803	74,810	72,734	43,117
Total	50,283	152,830	248,107	169,263	296,103	276,358	315,938	348,548

* The heading "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following :—(a) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery ; (b) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia—*continued.*

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
				WORKING DAYS LOST.				
1. Wages—								
(*a*) For increase ..	100,069	24,115	106,518	7,403	44,079	14,630	149,901	555,529
(*b*) Against decrease ..	9,438	4,472	1,368	13,991	44	450	142	..
(*c*) Other wage questions	78,183	67,550	111,258	98,669	154,339	124,256	191,194	72,473
2. Hours of Labour—								
(*a*) For reduction ..	2,774	21,636	4,232	85	13,248	72	153,023	15,246
(*b*) Other disputes re hours	15,111	10,752	12,781	2,607	27,351	30,444	11,852	63,936
3. Trade Unionism—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists..	91,002	63	5,852	5,583	49,398	10,118	7,877	232
(*b*) Other union questions	32,388	52,086	62,870	9,179	43,851	29,203	168,105	47,419
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	191,723	81,101	112,360	98,658	274,102	179,521	892,051	699,542
5. Working conditions ..	73,562	108,409	122,279	66,348	96,171	215,546	206,798	325,686
6. Sympathy	24,066	2,600	18,830	12,593	16,436	81,533	149,771	95,248
7. Other causes	5,212	86,370	425,826	63,079	271,132	226,979	188,927	72,533
Total	623,528	459,154	984,174	378,195	990,151	912,752	2,119,641	1,947,844

The main causes of industrial disputes are " wage " questions, " working conditions ", and " employment of particular classes or persons ".

The number of disputes concerning " wages " was 152 in 1945 and 142 in 1946, representing for each year 16 per cent. of the total. The heading " Employment of particular classes or persons " includes stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who are considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over " Employment " questions in 1945 numbered 243 (205 in 1946), or 26 (24) per cent. of the total, and over " Working Conditions " 268 (273), or 28 (31) per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings numbered 663 (620), or 70 (71) per cent. of the total dislocations during the year.

6. **Results of Industrial Disputes**—(i) *General.*—**The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute and are comprised in one or other of the following four classes :—**

(*a*) **In favour of workpeople ; (*b*) In favour of employer ; (*c*) Compromise ; (*d*) Indefinite.**

Disputes are considered to result :—(*a*) In favour of workpeople, when **the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers ; (*b*) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand ; (*c*) Compromise,** when **the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers ; (*d*) Indefinite,** when, for example, employees cease work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters

in dispute being explained ; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of " Sympathetic " disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally " Indefinite " except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii) *Results in each State, 1945 and 1946.*—The following table shows the industrial disputes in 1945 and 1946, classified according to results.

Industrial Disputes: Results.

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
					1945.(a)							
New South Wales	169	604	2	67	49,668	165,661	427	45,167	440,375	947,089	6,908	349,700
Victoria ..	14	15	2	2	3,840	24,780	83	493	12,971	34,575	727	1,664
Queensland ..	11	11	..	5	2,912	11,763	..	1,068	103,702	89,443	..	14,858
South Australia	6	6	..	1	2,184	1,473	..	178	22,432	4,936	..	1,546
Western Australia	2	11	..	3	216	2,186	..	1,400	696	13,569	..	18,226
Tasmania ..	3	5	1	1	85	993	44	450	339	4,616	88	1,125
N. Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
A.C. Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total, Aust. ..	205	652	5	79	58,905	206,856	554	48,756	580,515	1,094,228	7,723	387,119
					1946.(a)							
New South Wales	134	590	2	44	36,348	167,266	3,961	21,698	167,386	308,791	19,201	213,510
Victoria ..	11	10	4	8	1,629	7,021	30,746	34,107	3,740	68,670	215,582	34,302
Queensland ..	7	6	1	7	4,171	6,268	280	12,463	37,344	22,275	1,400	548,070
South Australia	7	7	..	3	1,370	8,190	..	131	8,189	9,489	..	616
Western Australia	4	3	..	4	231	951	..	5,181	812	2,915	..	65,907
Tasmania ..	3	4	..	1	146	1,207	..	322	923	4,113	..	1,610
N. Territory ..	..	1	..	1	..	97	..	430	..	97	..	1,860
A. C. Territory..	1	..	..	1	17	..	..	10	17	..	..	40
Total, Aust. ..	167	621	7	69	43,912	191,000	34,987	74,342	218,411	416,350	236,183	865,915

(a) The following particulars of disputes which were incomplete at 31st December, 1945 and 1946 respectively, should be added to the above figures for the relevant years to effect a balance with those published in the preceding tables :—

State.	Number.		Establishments Involved.		Workpeople Involved.		Working Days Lost.	
	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.
New South Wales ..	3	1	3	1	836	227	48,785	10,669
Victoria ..	1	2	1	91	31	3,314	1,271	184,996
Queensland ..	..	1	..	1	..	230	..	4,600
South Australia ..	..	1	..	1	..	536	..	10,720
Total	4	5	4	94	867	4,307	50,056	210,985

(iii) *Australia, 1945 and 1946.*—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia for the years 1945 and 1946, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

Industrial Disputes: Causes and Results, Australia,

Cause.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1945.(a)												
Wages—												
(a) For increase	7	8	..		3,620	493	..	600	111,976	5,275	..	12,135
(b) Against decrease ..	1	1	..	3 ..	14	38	..	..	28	114	..	..
(c) Other Wage questions ..	28	85	..	16	6,396	24,196	..	6,918	19,017	119,278	..	26,363
Hours of Labour—												
(a) For reduction	1	..	..	1	23	..	..	3,000	23	..	..	153,000
(b) Other disputes *re* hours	5	8	..	..	4,159	3,391	..	..	7,922	3,930	..	..
Trade Unionism—												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	5	1	..	1	879	756	..	65	5,939	378	..	1,560
(b) Other union questions ..	6	61	..	2	1,478	19,898	..	578	3,282	161,977	..	2,846
Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..	61	167	3	12	22,979	44,718	279	12,262	361,303	491,279	4,558	34,911
Working conditions ..	74	182	2	10	15,820	45,063	275	2,347	56,863	140,831	3,165	5,939
Sympathy ..	..	..	..	32	..	..	..	22,392	..	..	..	149,771
Other Causes ..	17	139	..	2	3,537	68,303	..	594	14,162	171,166	..	594
Total(a) ..	205	652	5	79	58,905	206,856	554	48,756	580,515	1,094,228	7,723	387,119
1946.(a)												
Wages—												
(a) For increase	6	12	3	6	496	24,611	30,431	32,035	2,922	52,919	214952	89,020
(b) Against decrease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Other Wage questions ..	16	80	1	15	6,884	17,144	151	3,724	35,806	25,620	151	10,896
Hours of Labour—												
(a) For reduction	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	249	..	..	..	15,246
(b) Other disputes *re* hours	5	7	..	2	4,467	3,071	..	1,350	52,427	7,309	..	4,200
Trade Unionism—												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	1	..	..	..	116	..	..	..	232	..	..	..
(b) Other union questions	1	59	..	4	276	11,295	..	399	3,864	41,044	..	2,511
Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..	48	141	1	13	15,437	31,134	280	10,825	91,779	86,248	1,400	504,846
Working conditions ..	84	174	2	13	15,687	63,265	4,125	12,823	30,180	138,034	19,680	137,792
Sympathy ..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	10,849	..	..	..	95,248
Other Causes ..	6	148	..	2	549	40,480	..	2,088	1,201	65,176	..	6,156
Total ..	167	621	7	69	43,912	191,000	34,987	74,342	218,411	416,350	236183	865,915

(a) See note to table on page 136.

(iv) *Australia, 1939 and 1942 to 1946.*—The table hereunder shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the years 1939 and 1942 to 1946, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes: Results, Australia.

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1939 ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791
1942 ..	166	393	9	28	48,848	107,656	2,517	8,913	114,540	201,381	13,041	36,973
1943 ..	202	497	10	74	72,116	190,668	4,481	27,720	279,440	569,522	36,966	74,382
1944 ..	260	603	3	72	73,643	171,347	1,234	28,950	315,216	403,606	11,043	151,471
1945 (*a*) ..	205	652	5	79	58,905	206,856	554	48,756	580,515	1,094,228	7,723	387,119
1946 (*a*) ..	167	621	7	69	43,912	191,000	34,987	74,342	218,411	416,350	236,183	865,915

(*a*) *See* note to table on page 136.

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in earlier years, but since 1916 the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1946 was 72. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

7. **Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

(i) By negotiation.

(ii) Under State Industrial Act.

(iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.

(iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.

(v) By closing down establishments permanently.

(vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and relates mainly to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *Australia, 1913, 1939 and 1941 to 1946.*—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder :—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	119	277	245	233	356	387	482	385
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	17	17	22	117	100	130	75	89
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	19	5	9	9	13	19	10	5
By reference to Board or Court	22	2	56	16	30	25	22	19
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	4	6	57	43	38	72	43	19
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	13	1	3	..	..	..	1	3
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
By other methods ..	13	106	173	178	246	304	308	344
Total	208	416	565	596	783	938	941	864
WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	80,195	72,865	57,556	101,169	87,122	129,135	86,174
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	3,172	2,489	5,757	42,072	43,556	34,942	23,426	57,768
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	6,505	4,925	3,336	2,259	4,583	12,684	7,967	724
By reference to Board or Court	12,774	429	21,788	4,642	15,096	10,970	11,981	6,483
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	659	3,268	55,019	14,873	12,251	27,966	20,596	10,059
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	658	20	340	..	..	19	10	130
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	170	178	..	..	..	..	..	..
By other methods ..	2,988	61,326	88,282	46,532	118,330	101,471	121,956	182,903
Total	50,283	152,830	247,387	167,934	294,985	275,174	315,071	344,241

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia—*continued.*

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945. (a)	1946. (a)
				WORKING DAYS LOST.				
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	245,709	159,347	98,650	244,920	176,569	745,989	265,401
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	26,335	52,943	42,563	115,727	246,334	150,431	158,452	339,481
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	187,871	35,647	14,259	10,112	19,430	46,132	21,268	12,539
By reference to Board or Court	221,769	3,366	107,051	18,761	82,112	78,431	394,787	116,681
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	2,105	46,450	510,277	69,441	53,330	197,599	367,799	147,509
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	14,139	20	5,248	..	..	..	110	7,552
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	20,400	3,892	..	..	..	209	..	..
By other methods ..	56,509	71,127	143,519	53,244	314,184	241,965	381,180	847,696
Total	623,528	459,154	982,264	365,935	960,310	891,336	2,069,585	1,736,859

(a) *See* note to table on page 136.

In each of the years included above, direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. In the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 43 in 1925 and 78 in 1937. The percentage was 51 in 1945 and 45 in 1946. In 1946 the percentage of disputes settled by "Other methods" rose to 40, the highest recorded for that method of settlement. In connexion with the comparatively large number of disputes classified as settled "By other methods", stoppages of work frequently occur, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

§ 8. Industrial Accidents.

1. **Source of Information.**—The following tables have been compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, and from Boiler, Lift, and Scaffolding Inspectors in the several States. In the Annual Reports issued by the State Departments, special sections are published relating to accidents in industrial undertakings. Reference to these Reports will afford more detailed information. The appreciative thanks of the Bureau are extended to the officials of the various State Departments, including the officials of the Mining Departments, who very kindly supplied the summarized returns shown hereunder.

2. Number of Accidents Reported.—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State in the years 1939 and 1942 to 1946 :—

Industrial Accidents, 1939 and 1942 to 1946.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A. (*b*)	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Fatal Accidents	1939 ..	53	26	20	14	43	5	161
	1942 ..	66	16	8	5	25	7	127
	1943 ..	(*a*) 71	18	9	3	19	8	128
	1944 ..	54	19	6	4	17	11	111
	1945 ..	37	16	10	5	16	6	90
	1946 ..	48	19	14	3	15	1	100
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	1939 ..	9,794	976	684	178	1,662	106	13,400
	1942 ..	17,867	1,835	1,126	341	1,517	100	22,786
	1943 ..	20,781	2,143	921	285	1,268	90	25,488
	1944 ..	20,710	2,019	879	224	1,097	104	25,033
	1945 ..	17,580	1,975	1,034	183	1,143	67	21,982
	1946 ..	17,264	2,192	1,087	275	1,497	83	22,398

(*a*) *See* remarks below. (*b*) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Fatal accidents in Australia reported in 1946 were 11 per cent. more than in the previous year and 38 per cent. less than in 1939. Non-fatal accidents were 19 per cent. more than in 1945, and 67 per cent. more than in 1939.

The frequency of fatal accidents during the last few years has been considerably less than during the years prior to the 1939–45 War, the average annual number of such accidents during the five years ended 1946 being only 111 as compared with 150 for the five years ended 1938. However, in this connexion, it should be noted that during the later period there was less activity in the mining industry, in which the majority of fatal accidents occurs.

The large number of accidents recorded in New South Wales is due to the provision of the Act that all accidents which prevent workers from returning to work within seven days must be reported. Figures for this State are, therefore, not exactly comparable with those for other States. Further, the definition of a non-fatal accident is not on uniform lines in all States.

3. Accidents in Industrial Groups.—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups in Australia in 1945 and 1946, compared with 1939.

Industrial Accidents: Number in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1939 and 1945 and 1946.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.			Incapacitating for over 14 days.(*b*)		
	1939.	1945.	1946.	1939.	1945.	1946.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	5	8	6	664	638	802
II. Engineering, etc.(*a*) ..	15	5	17	4,343	9,385	8,400
III. Food, Drink, etc.	10	3	5	1,295	2,345	2,183
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	1	..	1	627	761	880
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	1	..	1	480	545	717
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	17	15	15	3,100	5,918	6,449
VII. Building and Scaffolding ..	7	2	3	23	34	63
VIII. Mining	93	46	40	2,552	1,810	2,166
IX. Lifts	3	2	..	6	14	20
X. Miscellaneous	9	9	12	310	532	718
Total	161	90	100	13,400	21,982	22,398

(*a*) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Inspector of Factories in New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. Prior to 1938 these accidents were included in Group VIII. Mining.
(*b*) *See* remarks above.

The largest number of fatal accidents occurs in the mining industry, which, in 1939 and 1946, was responsible for 58 and 40 per cent. respectively. The largest number of non-fatal accidents occurs in engineering, etc.—38 per cent. in 1946 compared with 32 per cent. in 1939.

In 1946 three fatal accidents occurred in connexion with building and scaffolding and twelve deaths resulted from accidents grouped under "Miscellaneous". Forty-five fatal and 19,431 non-fatal accidents were reported in the manufacturing industries, 8,400 of the total occurring in the engineering and metal-working group.

4. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, except as regards accidents occurring in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following table give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments in each State in 1945 and 1946.

Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes.(*a*)

A.—Fatal Accidents.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
			1945.				
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" " Falls of Ground	1	..	..	..	3	1	5
" " Falling down shafts, etc.	1	..	1	..	1	..	3
Other Accidents	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
2. Above Ground(*b*)—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
Other Accidents	4	..	..	..	1	1	6
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.	..	..	1	2	..	..	3
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	4	..	..	..	4
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	5	3	1	..	..	..	9
Other Accidents	5	..	1	..	1	..	7
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	20	3	8	2	11	2	46

(*a*) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the State Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works and quarries are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident. (*b*) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, &c.

A.—Fatal Accidents—*continued.*

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
			1946.				
METALLIFEROUS METALS.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
,, ,, Falls of Ground	4	1	..	..	5	..	10
,, ,, Falling down shafts, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
2. **Above Ground**(*a*)—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	2	..	..	..	..	1	3
Other Accidents	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
3. **Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.**	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
COAL MINES.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	4	1	3	..	..	..	8
Other Accidents	7	..	4	..	..	..	11
2. **Above Ground**—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	19	2	7	1	10	1	40

(*a*) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, &c.

B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W. (*a*)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
			1945.				
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	2	..	..	..	5	1	8
,, ,, ,, Falls of Ground	53	2	3	..	26	3	87
,, ,, ,, Falling down shafts, etc.	9	..	..	..	19	1	29
Other Accidents	196	..	63	..	394	10	663
2. **Above Ground**— (*c*)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	1	..	7	3	13	6	30
Other Accidents	60	..	28	23	124	15	250
3. **Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.** (*b*)	..	..	73	68	8	..	149
COAL MINES.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	23	..	..	..	1	..	24
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	21	2	47	..	22	2	94
Other Accidents	33	2	147	..	216	4	402
2. **Above Ground**—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents	4	..	27	3	37	2	73
Total	403	6	395	97	865	44	1810

(*a*) Complete reports not available. (*b*) Includes accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories in States other than New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. (*c*) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, &c.

B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days—*continued.*

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
	1946.						
METALLIFEROUS METALS.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	4	3	..	..	6	1	14
,, ,, Falls of Ground	75	8	3	1	23	1	111
,, ,, Falling down shafts, etc.	11	1	2	..	16	1	31
Other Accidents	197	2	61	..	583	15	858
2. **Above Ground**— (b)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	29	1	8	1	28	4	71
Other Accidents	62	..	30	11	153	20	276
3. **Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.**(b)	..	..	68	98	15	13	194
COAL MINES.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	18	..	3	..	1	..	22
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	28	3	38	..	39	2	110
Other Accidents	36	4	129	..	202	3	374
2. **Above Ground**—							
Accidents caused by machinery on motion	3	..	5	1	1	1	11
Other Accidents	10	..	22	5	43	1	81
Total	475	22	370	117	1,110	62	2,156

(a) Complete reports not available. (b) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, &c.

During the year 1946, 33 (32 in 1945) fatal mining accidents occurred below ground in Australia as compared with 7 (14) above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1946 numbered 19 (22) as against 21 (24) in coalmines. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 1,523 (1,307) and above ground 633 (503).

CHAPTER V.—ASSOCIATIONS.

§ 1. Labour Organizations.

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since 1939. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in regard to the supply of information.

The figures published in this chapter cover the years 1943 to 1946 in comparison with 1939. Particulars for earlier years will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

2. Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1939 and 1943 to 1946—The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and branches with the number of members at the end of the years 1939 and 1943 to 1946 :—

Trade Unions : Branches and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern T'tory.	A.C.T.	Total.	Aust.
					NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.					
1939..	200	149	114	117	141	79	4	15	819	*a*380
1943..	192	142	113	113	138	73	4	15	790	*a*375
1944..	189	141	112	112	136	72	4	15	781	*a*370
1945..	184	139	110	112	132	71	4	15	767	*a*362
1946..	183	138	110	111	130	69	4	15	760	*a*362
					NUMBER OF BRANCHES.					
1939..	598	398	312	178	204	69	..	1	1,760	*b*2,199
1943..	592	382	308	175	207	71	..	1	1,736	*b*2,151
1944..	591	382	307	173	208	71	..	1	1,733	*b*2,144
1945..	591	382	307	173	208	71	..	1	1,733	*b*2,138
1946..	591	382	307	173	209	70	..	1	1,733	*b*2,131
					NUMBER OF MEMBERS.					
1939..	358,391	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	1,685	915,470	915,470
1943..	498,169	311,791	194,225	107,311	63,880	26,130	1,406	1,951	1,204,863	1,204,863
1944..	508,832	314,952	192,085	104,892	67,617	26,939	1,406	2,055	1,218,778	1,218,778
1945..	501,845	306,649	192,087	97,829	71,512	27,114	1,406	1,953	1,200,395	1,200,395
1946..	527,738	324,380	199,719	101,595	77,622	28,314	1,997	2,293	1,263,658	1,263,658
					PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(*c*)					
1939..	3.3	0.8	6.5	8.7	*d* 0.1	4.8	*d* 5.6	9.6	3.4	3.4
1943..	3.1	3.0	1.9	*d* 3.7	*d* 1.0	*d* 2.8	..	8.6	1.9	1.9
1944..	2.1	1.0	*d* 1.1	*d* 2.3	5.9	3.1	..	5.3	1.2	1.2
1945..	*d* 1.4	*d* 2.6	..	*d* 6.7	5.8	0.6	..	*d* 5.0	*d* 1.5	*d* 1.5
1946..	5.2	5.8	4.0	3.8	8.5	4.4	42.0	17.4	5.3	5.3

(*a*) Allowing for interstate duplication. The figures represent the number of distinct organizations and interstate groups of organizations. They do not represent the total number of organizations which are practically independent and self-governing (see following remarks). (*b*) Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of interstate unions, but also head State branches of interstate unions. (*c*) On preceding year. (*d*) Decrease.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international union. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations :—(i) the local independent ; (ii) the State ; (iii) the interstate ; and (iv) the Australasian or international.

In the table just given, under the heading " Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted once only, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In the total number of separate unions in each State (see last column but one), it is obvious that there will be duplication in the case of interstate and similar unions, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it is represented by a Branch. The figures in the last column, therefore, have been obtained by making due allowance for this duplication.

3. **Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1939 and 1943 to 1946.**—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1943 to 1946 compared with 1939.

Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.

Industrial Groups.	1939.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	NUMBER OF UNIONS.				
Manufacturing—	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	17 (4)	17 (5)	17 (5)	17 (4)	17 (4)
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	64 (22)	61 (22)	61 (22)	61 (22)	58 (22)
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	72 (35)	67 (33)	66 (30)	66 (35)	66 (35)
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	26 (12)	25 (12)	24 (12)	23 (9)	23 (9)
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	14 (8)	14 (8)	14 (8)	15 (10)	15 (10)
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	71 (37)	74 (37)	74 (37)	68 (36)	67 (36)
VII. Building	48 (28)	48 (27)	48 (27)	48 (24)	48 (24)
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	16 (13)	18 (13)	18 (13)	17 (14)	17 (14)
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	51 (29)	51 (29)	51 (29)	50 (31)	50 (31)
X. Other Land Transport	13 (6)	12 (5)	12 (5)	12 (5)	12 (5)
XI. Shipping, etc.	60 (21)	50 (19)	51 (19)	45 (19)	45 (19)
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	9 (5)	9 (5)	9 (5)	9 (3)	9 (3)
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	19 (18)	19 (17)	19 (17)	18 (17)	18 (17)
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	33 (20)	33 (21)	33 (21)	33 (14)	33 (14)
(ii) Public Service	147 (50)	142 (49)	142 (49)	143 (48)	142 (48)
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	15 (8)	15 (8)	15 (8)	15 (9)	15 (9)
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring	20 (11)	20 (12)	20 (12)	20 (11)	20 (11)
(v) Other Miscellaneous	124 (53)	115 (53)	107 (51)	107 (51)	105 (51)
Total	819(380)	790(375)	781(370)	767(362)	760(362)

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication.

	NUMBER OF MEMBERS.				
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	27,990	28,099	29,289	30,582	31,952
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	99,731	206,791	209,105	197,182	201,050
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	80,328	75,361	75,404	75,655	80,691
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	68,847	102,406	102,369	98,155	100,211
V. Books, Printing, etc.	22,303	23,810	25,127	25,483	28,492
VI. Other Manufacturing	52,074	95,116	84,782	57,262	63,805
VII. Building	45,651	71,645	64,780	71,651	78,066
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	48,812	41,956	40,282	38,581	42,758
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	105,938	121,044	124,763	125,636	128,426
X. Other Land Transport	19,488	21,688	21,920	27,555	29,455
XI. Shipping, etc.	28,760	32,342	35,936	34,150	32,417
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	40,276	37,730	36,168	34,592	37,756
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	13,177	22,167	28,382	30,711	37,758
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	39,013	65,577	76,645	84,288	79,468
(ii) Public Service	89,848	127,341	122,750	128,372	130,173
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	36,290	35,346	36,781	36,470	40,648
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring	46,552	45,205	46,428	45,056	52,705
(v) Other Miscellaneous	50,392	51,239	57,867	59,014	67,827
Total	915,470	1,204,863	1,218,778	1,200,395	1,263,658

4. **Trade Unions: Numbers of Male and Female Members and percentage of Total Wage and Salary Earners.**—(i) *States*, 1945 and 1946.—Prior to 1939 the numbers of male and female wage and salary earners (including unemployed) aged 20 years and over were estimated by increasing the numbers of such persons enumerated at the 1933 Census in ratio to the annual increases in males and females aged 20 to 64 years. Similarly, for wage and salary earners (including unemployed) under 20 years the numbers of such persons at the 1933 Census were increased in ratio to the annual increases in males and females 15 to 19 years. Further, allowance was made for (*a*) increase in the proportion of females who became wage and salary earners and (*b*) youths and girls who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the 1933 Census. While the foregoing method of estimation would produce fairly accurate results during normal times, the drastically altered conditions of employment over the period of the recent war necessitated the adoption of more direct methods.

For 1939 and subsequent years, therefore, the estimates are based on data obtained largely from the National Register of July, 1939, the Civilian Register of June, 1943, the Occupation Survey of June, 1945, and records of Defence Forces. The estimated numbers of wage and salary earners *include* (*a*) estimated numbers of wage earners enlisted in the Defence Forces and (*b*) persons who were " not gainfully occupied " before the outbreak of war, but who subsequently entered wage-earning employment and (*c*) persons who in normal times would be occupied in their own businesses but undertook wage and salary earning employment during the war and immediate post-war period.

The following table shows for each State the number of males, females and persons who are members of trade unions and the percentage of all adult wage and salary earners (including categories (*a*) (*b*) and (*c*) mentioned above) who are members of unions. The estimated number of wage and salary earners includes all persons 20 years of age and over in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a large number of adults who are not eligible for membership of any trade union, such as certain persons employed in professional occupations, as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. Moreover the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and age 20 years is taken as approximating to the age of admission to membership. A line has also been added showing the estimated numbers of " junior " workers under 20 years of age.

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, 1945.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (*a*)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (*b*)
MALES.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)(*c*) ..	699,200	471,900	243,300	144,000	111,700	50,900	1,714,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	393,476	232,457	151,998	81,019	58,550	22,448	941,297
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	56.3	49.3	62.5	56.3	52.4	44.1	54.9
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)..	101,500	70,600	42,700	22,600	18,200	10,200	266,000
FEMALES.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)(*c*) ..	205,400	155,300	60,200	38,100	26,800	12,800	499,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	110,322	74,192	40,098	16,810	12,962	4,666	259,098
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	53.7	47.8	66.6	44.1	48.4	36.5	51.9
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)..	84,200	61,400	33,400	18,500	14,500	7,000	219,000
PERSONS.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)(*c*) ..	904,600	627,200	303,500	182,100	138,500	63,700	2,213,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	503,798	306,649	192,096	97,829	71,512	27,114	1,200,395
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	55.7	48.9	63.3	53.7	51.6	42.6	54.2
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)..	185,700	132,000	76,100	41,100	32,700	17,200	485,000

(*a*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory. (*c*) Includes wage earners enlisted in defence forces or unemployed.

Trade Unions : Number of Male and Female Members, and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, 1946.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (b)
MALES.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) (c)	661,600	444,600	229,600	142,100	105,300	52,100	1,639,100
No. of Members of Unions ..	424,935	255,414	159,378	85,963	62,412	23,625	1,013,653
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	64.2	57.4	69.4	60.5	59.3	45.3	61.8
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	98,400	68,400	41,400	21,900	17,700	9,900	257,900
FEMALES.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) (c)	202,400	145,700	59,400	36,200	25,800	12,100	482,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	105,096	68,966	40,341	15,632	15,210	4,689	250,005
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	51.9	47.3	67.9	43.1	59.0	38.8	51.9
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	81,200	59,200	32,200	17,800	14,000	6,800	211,300
PERSONS.							
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) (c)	864,000	590,300	289,000	178,300	131,100	64,200	2,121,100
No. of Members of Unions ..	530,031	324,380	199,719	101,595	77,622	28,314	1,263,658
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	61.3	55.0	69.1	57.0	59.2	44.1	59.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	179,600	127,600	73,600	39,700	31,700	16,700	469,200

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Includes wage earners enlisted in defence forces or unemployed.

(ii) *Australia.*—Similar particulars for Australia for the years 1939 and 1943 to 1946, are given in the following table.

Trade Unions : Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia. (a)

Particulars.	1939.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
MALES.					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) a	1,507,500	1,749,700	1,707,400	1,714,000	1,639,100
Number of Members of Unions	778,336	935,997	944,777	941,297	1,013,653
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	51.6	53.5	55.3	54.9	61.8
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	275,600	296,000	272,600	266,000	257,900
FEMALES.					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) a	417,600	546,000	541,000	499,000	482,000
Number of Members of Unions	137,134	268,866	274,001	259,098	250,005
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	32.8	49.7	50.6	51.9	51.9
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	187,200	257,300	222,000	219,000	211,300
PERSONS.					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) a	1,925,100	2,295,700	2,248,400	2,213,000	2,121,100
Number of Members of Unions	915,470	1,204,863	1,218,778	1,200,395	1,263,658
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	47.6	52.5	54.2	54.2	59.6
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	462,800	553,300	494,600	485,000	469,200

(a) Includes wage earners enlisted in defence forces or unemployed.

5. **Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1939 and 1943 to 1946.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1939 and 1943 to 1946 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only :—

Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
					NUMBER OF UNIONS.						
1939 ..	27	14	41	43	52	28	30	52	41	52	380
1943 ..	33	19	44	33	45	27	26	53	41	54	375
1944 ..	33	19	40	37	44	22	33	50	42	50	370
1945 ..	32	20	38	46	37	28	31	46	40	44	362
1946 ..	32	22	39	46	39	30	29	44	38	43	362
					MEMBERSHIP.						
1939 ..	568,624	87,077	134,204	59,283	36,776	10,578	7,483	7,225	2,655	1,565	915,470
1943 ..	851,882	119,403	128,852	44,356	31,882	10,204	6,499	7,384	2,851	1,550	1,204,863
1944 ..	857,114	120,383	128,926	51,844	32,344	8,514	8,291	7,011	2,957	1,394	1,218,778
1945 ..	843,210	125,318	113,247	63,334	26,820	10,830	7,695	5,793	2,921	1,227	1,200,395
1946 ..	880,455	144,532	122,150	61,560	26,583	10,868	7,477	5,948	2,816	1,269	1,263,658
					PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.						
1939 ..	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1943 ..	70.7	9.9	10.7	3.7	2.7	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0
1944 ..	70.3	9.9	10.6	4.2	2.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0
1945 ..	70.2	10.4	9.4	5.3	2.2	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	100.0
1946 ..	69.7	11.4	9.7	4.9	2.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.1	100.0

In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that although membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 181 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, namely, from 360 to 269. In 1946, 9.2 per cent. of trade union members belonged to unions having less than 2,000 members as compared with 13.7 per cent. in 1939 and 28.1 per cent. in 1912.

6. **Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Interstate or Federated Trade Unions: Number and Membership.

Particulars.		Unions Operating in—					Total.
		2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.(a)	
Number of Unions	1939 ..	19	11	20	24	42	116
	1943 ..	18	12	17	24	46	117
	1944 ..	16	16	15	24	49	120
	1945 ..	16	17	16	25	46	120
	1946 ..	15	17	16	26	46	120
Number of Members	1939 ..	30,888	33,319	120,664	209,369	361,884	756,124
	1943 ..	31,889	37,366	158,248	299,685	534,625	1,061,813
	1944 ..	29,415	46,870	122,975	302,897	561,562	1,063,719
	1945 ..	29,998	39,434	117,131	300,011	522,340	1,008,914
	1946 ..	23,549	43,969	143,495	318,356	549,042	1,078,411

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 120 in 1946, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 85 per cent. during the same period.

7. **Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The following table gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith in each State at the end of the years 1939 and 1943 to 1946.

Central Labour Organizations: Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Australia.
No. of Councils	1939 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	1943 ..	7	9	11	2	9	3	..	1	42
	1944 ..	7	9	11	2	9	3	..	1	42
	1945 ..	7	9	10	3	9	4	..	1	43
	1946 ..	9	9	11	7	9	5	..	1	51
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	1939 ..	103	179	79	50	210	59	..	9	689
	1943 ..	210	256	101	61	274	71	..	9	982
	1944 ..	224	263	107	64	277	73	..	15	1,023
	1945 ..	223	258	112	78	295	88	..	15	1,069
	1946 ..	260	261	121	138	296	102	..	15	1,193

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions, the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of Australia, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress, held in Melbourne in

May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:—(*a*) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the Craft to an Industrial basis by the establishment of one Union in each industry; (*b*) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (*c*) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (*d*) educational propaganda among Unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the Trade Union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference.

8. **Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.**—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

At the end of 1945 and 1946 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 42. The number of unions registered at the end of 1945 and 1946 was 161, with a membership of approximately 1,120,858 at the end of 1946 (1,082,472 for 1945), representing 89 (90 for 1945) per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

§ 2. International Labour Conferences.

1. **General**—In Chapter XVII. of *Labour Report* No. 14, information was given with regard to the clauses in the Peace Treaty of 1919 referring to labour conditions. Provision was made in the Treaty for the holding of International Labour Conferences, and the institution of the International Labour Office. The Report referred to also contains information regarding the activities of the Labour Office, together with a brief reference to the five Annual Labour Conferences which had then been held. Particulars are given in later reports of the proceedings at subsequent Conferences up to the 27th session which opened at Paris on 15th October, 1945.

2. **The 28th Session**—The 28th Session of the International Labour Conference opened at Seattle on 6th June, 1946, and extended to 29th June, 1946. This was in the nature of a Special Session devoted exclusively to matters connected with the Maritime Industry, and the agenda was as

* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service.

follows :—(i) Director's Report ; (ii) Social security for seafarers ; (iii) Crew accommodation on board ship ; (iv) Food and catering on board ship ; (v) Entry, training and promotion of seafarers ; (vi) Holidays with pay for seafarers ; (vii) Continuous employment for seafarers ; (viii) Recognition of seafarers' organizations ; (ix) Wages ; hours of work on board ship ; manning ; (x) Resolutions presented to Conference following their adoption at Copenhagen in 1945 ; (*a*) minimum age of entry to sea service ; (*b*) registers of seafarers ; and (xi) Appointment of shipowners' and seamen's members to the Joint Maritime Commission.

Conventions were adopted in respect of (ii), (iii), (iv), (vi) and (ix) ; Recommendations were made in respect of (ii) and (v) ; and Resolutions were carried in respect of (vii) and (viii).

Conventions were also adopted in respect of the following matters :— (*a*) Certification of ships' cooks ; (*b*) Seafarers' pensions ; (*c*) Medical examination of seafarers ; and (*d*) Certification of able seamen.

Recommendations were made in respect of the following matters :— (*e*) Medical care for seafarers' dependants ; and (*f*) Provision to crews by shipowners of bedding, mess utensils and other articles.

Resolutions were carried in respect of the following matters :— (*g*) Incomplete delegations ; (*h*) Composition of the Joint Maritime Commission ; (*i*) Safety of life at sea ; (*j*) Ratification of Conventions ; (*k*) Seafarers' compensation claims arising out of the war ; (*l*) Future of the Maritime Department of International Labour Organization ; and (*m*) Seamen's welfare in ports.

The Australian delegation comprised the following :—Government delegates, Senator C. A. Lamp and M. Bourke, Esq. ; Shipowners' delegate, S. T. Edwards, Esq. ; Workers' delegate, J. A. Tudehope, Esq. ; Adviser to the delegation on Social Security and Pensions, F. H. Rowe, Esq. Mr. Edwards did not attend the Session, but in the Plenary Sessions of the Conference the situation was balanced by the absence also of the Workers' delegate from New Zealand.

3. **The 29th Session**—The 29th Session of the International Labour Conference opened at Montreal on 19th September, and extended to 9th October, 1946. The agenda was as follows :—(i) Director's Report ; (ii) Constitutional questions ; (iii) Protection of children and young workers ; (iv) Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories ; (v) Reports on the application of conventions ; (vi) Other business (*a*) financial and budgetary matters ; (*b*) resolutions ; (*c*) standing orders ; and (*d*) re-admission to membership of Nicaragua and El Salvador.

The Conference was notable for the fact that, the necessary number of ratifications having been received to bring into effect the instrument of amendment to the Constitution following on the Paris Conference of 1945, the Conference was therefore a fully autonomous body, quite independent of the old League of Nations machinery. Furthermore, the operation of this instrument, combined with the further work (by this Conference) on constitutional matters, completed the period of transition and reorientation through which the organization had been passing during the war years and after.

As regards the matters listed in the above agenda, the following results emerged, viz. :—(ii) " The Constitution of the International Labour Organization Instrument of Amendment, 1946 " was drawn up for ratification,

showing in parallel columns the existing and amended Articles; (iii) Text of Convention concerning medical examination for fitness for employment in industry of children and young persons; Text of Convention concerning medical examination of children and young persons for fitness for employment in non-industrial occupations; Text of Recommendation concerning the medical examination for fitness for employment of children and young persons; Resolution concerning the extension of medical examination to young agricultural workers; Text of Convention concerning the restriction of night work of children and young persons in non-industrial occupations; Text of Recommendation concerning the restriction of night work of children and young persons in non-industrial occupations; (iv) Conclusions relating to a Convention concerning social policy in non-self-governing territories.

The following additional questions were dealt with in the manner indicated, viz.:—(*a*) Conclusions relating to Convention concerning the application of international labour standards to non-self-governing territories; (*b*) Conclusions relating to a Convention concerning the maximum length of contracts of employment; (*c*) Resolution concerning freedom of labour; (*d*) Resolution placing on the agenda of the next General Session of Conference proposals suggesting the adoption of Conventions concerning (i) social policy in non-self-governing territories (ii) the application of international labour standards to non-self-governing territories and (iii) the maximum length of contracts of employment.

The Australian delegation comprised the following:—Government delegates, Senator the Hon. J. S. Collings, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Senator D. M. Grant; Employers' delegate, B. Orr, Esq., Vice-President of the Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia; Workers' delegate, A. E. Monk, Esq., Secretary of the Australasian Council of Trade Unions.

4. **Industrial Committees**—The Industrial Committees set up after the Governing Body meeting in January, 1945, have met as follows:—

Coal Mining Committee	London, December, 1945.
Inland Transport Committee ..	
Iron and Steel Committee ..	Cleveland, United States of America, April and May, 1946.
Metal Trades Committee ..	
Textile Committee	Brussels, November and December, 1946
Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works Committee ..	

Australia is represented on all these Committees and usually four Australian delegates attend each meeting. The present tendency is for each Committee to meet annually, and this year meetings have been arranged as follows:—

Coal Mining Committee	Geneva, April and May, 1947.
Inland Transport Committee ..	
Iron and Steel Committee ..	Stockholm, August and September, 1947.
Metal Trades Committee ..	

The Governing Body has decided to establish a new Committee for chemical industries.

§ 3. World Federation of Trade Unions.

The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) finally came into being with the adoption of its Constitution on 3rd October, 1945, by the World Trade Union Conference held in Paris.

The main objects of the Federation are as follows :—

(*a*) To organize and unite within its ranks the trade unions of the world, irrespective of considerations of race, nationality, religion or political opinion ;

(*b*) To assist wherever necessary the workers in countries socially or industrially less developed in setting up their trade unions ;

(*c*) To carry on the struggle for the extermination of all Fascist forms of government and manifestation of Fascism under whatever form it operates and by whatever name it may be known ; and

(*d*) To combat war and the causes of war and work for a stable and enduring peace.

The trade unions of certain countries (e.g., Germany and Japan) are not yet admitted into the Federation, while certain large organizations in other countries are for certain reasons holding aloof from membership.

With a membership of approximately 70,000,000, the Federation is the largest trade union organization ever known.

APPENDIX.

SECTION I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1945.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1945.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	5.05	5.05	4.99
,, self-raising ..	,,	8.30	8.30	8.35	8.35	8.35	8.40	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.30
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	13.60	13.60	13.70	13.70	13.70	13.70	13.80	13.80	13.80	13.80	14.00	14.00	13.77
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.93
Oats, flaked(*a*) ..	lb.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.83	3.83	3.83	3.77
Raisins, seeded (*a*) ..	,,	12.29	12.29	12.29	12.58	12.29	12.86	13.29	13.29	13.23	13.46	13.46	13.23	12.88
Currants	,,	10.72	10.72	10.72	10.67	10.72	10.72	10.78	10.80	10.75	10.75	10.70	10.70	10.73
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50
Peaches, canned (*a*)	30 oz.	13.55	13.55	13.55	13.50	13.44	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	14.30	14.50	13.74
Pears, canned (*a*) ..	,,	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.63	14.63	14.63	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	15.75	15.94	14.87
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.66	8.66	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.44
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.92	3.92	3.67	3.36	3.43	3.36	3.44	3.44	3.57	3.29	3.[illegible]	3.00	3.46
Soap	,,	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.[illegible]	6.86	6.86
Kerosene	quart	6.15	6.15	6.11	6.15	5.96	5.92	5.94	5.94	5.86	5.89	5.[illegible]	5.94	6.00
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05
Cheese, mild ..	,,	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.21	17.21	17.36	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.36	17.40
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.30	28.30	28.30	28.30	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.30	22.55	22.35	22.35	22.35	26.32
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	22.05	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.05	22.05	21.95	21.[illegible]	21.95	22.00
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.75	9.75	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.[illegible]	9.80	9.79
,, fresh ..	quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.15	12.20	12.00	12.80	12.80	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.70	12.67
,, rib	,,	8.75	8.80	8.25	8.20	8.20	8.15	8.10	8.15	8.10	8.00	8.00	8.10	8.23
,, steak, rump ..	,,	20.10	20.10	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	20.85
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	9.15	9.15	8.95	8.95	8.95	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.95	9.00	9.00	8.75	8.99
,, sausages ..	,,	8.40	8.40	8.95	8.95	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.20	9.20	9.20	8.94
Beef (corned) silver side	,,	10.25	10.25	10.10	10.50	10.50	10.55	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.43
,, ,, brisket	,,	7.70	7.65	7.50	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	8.00	8.00	7.95	7.88
Mutton, leg ..	,,	8.25	8.25	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.70	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.60	8.55	8.45	8.57
,, forequarter	,,	4.85	4.85	5.45	5.40	5.40	5.70	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.55	5.50	5.40	5.47
,, loin ..	,,	10.05	10.05	10.95	11.05	11.05	11.15	11.05	11.05	11.05	10.45	10.35	10.30	10.71
,, chops, loin	,,	10.25	10.25	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.20	11.10	11.10	11.49
,, ,, leg	,,	9.83	9.83	11.25	11.40	11.40	11.50	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.10	11.00	11.00	11.18
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1945.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1945.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.25
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.33
Oats, flaked(*a*) ..	lb.	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.75	3.75	3.79
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.22	13.22	13.09
Currants	,,	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.56	10.56	10.67	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.65	10.65	10.55	10.58
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	13.00	13.00	13.06	13.06	13.06	13.06	13.06	13.06	13.05	13.05	14.28	14.35	13.26
Pears, canned (*a*) ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.17	15.30	14.20
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.50	2.75	2.63	2.50	2.75	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.50	2.62
Soap	,,	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11
Kerosene	quart	6.50	6.56	6.52	6.52	6.46	6.40	6.38	6.36	6.36	6.36	6.36	6.36	6.43
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50
Cheese, mild ..	,,	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	26.00
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	23.43	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.78
Milk, condensed ..	tin	10.20	10.25	10.20	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.30	10.30	10.30	10.35	10.35	10.27
,, fresh ..	quart	7.35	7.35	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.43
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	13.40	13.35	13.40	13.30	13.65	13.80	13.90	13.90	14.00	14.00	13.80	13.80	13.69
,, rib	,,	11.40	11.20	11.35	11.40	11.65	11.60	11.70	11.70	11.80	11.80	11.40	11.35	11.53
,, steak, rump ..	,,	21.10	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.30	21.10	21.20	21.10	21.10	21.00	20.90	20.90	21.06
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	10.20	9.95	10.10	10.10	10.15	10.20	10.05	10.05	10.15	10.20	10.15	10.15	10.12
,, sausages ..	,,	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.85	8.00	8.30	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.40	8.15
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	12.50	12.45	12.50	12.60	12.45	12.50	12.60	12.60	12.70	12.70	12.45	12.45	12.54
,, ,, brisket	,,	9.25	9.30	9.40	9.35	9.60	9.40	9.35	9.35	9.45	9.45	9.15	9.15	9.35
Mutton, leg ..	,,	11.15	11.15	11.25	11.25	11.35	11.50	11.61	11.60	11.70	11.40	11.25	11.25	11.37
,, forequarter	,,	5.65	5.65	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.75	6.95	7.00	7.00	6.90	6.75	6.70	6.57
,, loin ..	,,	9.15	9.15	9.45	9.40	9.55	9.50	9.60	9.80	9.90	9.90	9.55	9.55	9.54
,, chops, loin	,,	10.40	10.30	10.65	10.50	10.80	10.70	10.70	10.80	10.90	10.80	10.55	10.55	10.64
,, ,, leg	,,	11.00	10.95	11.15	11.15	11.25	11.90	12.13	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.90	11.90	11.60
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1945.

Article	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1945.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09
,, self-raising ..	,,	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.62
Tea	lb.	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05
Sugar	,,	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.95
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	12.50	12.55	12.55	12.55	12.59	12.59	12.59	12.84	12.84	12.75	12.61	12.66	12.64
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.89
Oats, flaked(*a*) ..	lb.	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.17	4.12
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	12.72	12.85	12.85	12.86	12.86	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.88
Currants	,,	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.40	11.30	11.40	11.35
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25
Peaches, canned (*a*)	30 oz.	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.61	15.92	16.19	15.29
Pears, canned (*a*) ..	,,	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.29	15.81	16.58	17.07	15.59
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.37	8.36	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.36	8.37	8.36	8.36	8.37	8.36	8.37	8.37
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.00	3.00	2.96	2.96	2.96	2.96	2.96	2.96	2.96	2.43	2.16	2.38	2.81
Soap	,,	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.94	6.94	6.94	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.93
Kerosene	quart	5.65	5.62	5.62	5.62	5.45	5.38	5.38	5.38	5.38	5.38	5.37	5.37	5.47
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.91	19.91	19.91	19.86	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.85
Cheese, mild ..	,,	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.09	15.18	15.09	15.09	15.10
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.82	27.91	27.91	27.91	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	25.93
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.05	22.05	22.05	22.01
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82
,, fresh ..	quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin .	lb.	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.50	12.04
,, rib	,,	5.22	5.33	6.78	7.00	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.22	6.22	6.22	6.22	6.72	6.24
,, steak, rump .	,,	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.50	17.04
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	7.05	7.10	7.55	7.50	7.30	7.35	7.35	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.90	7.41
,, sausages ..	,,	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.06	8.01
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	10.50	10.55	11.00	11.00	10.20	10.15	10.15	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.65	10.38
,, ,, brisket	,,	7.55	7.55	7.90	7.95	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60	8.10	7.70
Mutton, leg ..	,,	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
,, forequarter	,,	5.10	5.05	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.01
,, loin ..	,,	7.61	7.61	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.75
,, chops, loin	,,	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
,, ,, leg	,,	8.44	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—*continued.*

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1945.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1945.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15
Tea	lb.	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	13.10	13.10	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.20	13.20	13.15
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.90	6.90	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.94
Oats, flaked (*a*) ..	lb.	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.80	3.75	3.75	3.78
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.68
Currants	,,	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38
Peaches, canned (*a*)	30 oz.	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	14.50	14.50	13.94
Pears, canned (*a*) ..	,,	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	13.83	15.25	15.25	14.07
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.00	3.00	2.85	3.00	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.88	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.67	2.88
Soap	,,	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36
Kerosene	quart	5.57	5.56	5.56	5.56	5.34	5.31	5.31	5.31	5.31	5.31	5.31	5.31	5.40
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.40	28.40	28.40	28.40	28.40	28.40	28.40	28.40	22.40	22.40	22.40	22.40	26.40
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30
,, fresh ..	quart	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.05	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.13
,, rib	,,	10.00	10.06	10.06	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.01
,, steak, rump ..	,,	17.00	16.40	16.30	16.40	16.40	16.70	16.90	16.90	16.90	17.00	17.00	16.60	16.71
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	10.35	10.05	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.03
,, sausages ..	,,	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.22	7.12
Beef (corned) silver side	,,	11.70	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.85	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.50	11.75
,, ,, brisket	,,	8.75	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.80	8.95	8.95	8.95	9.00	9.00	8.50	8.74
Mutton, leg ..	,,	9.75	9.85	9.95	10.70	10.80	10.95	11.85	11.85	11.85	10.95	10.95	10.90	10.86
,, forequarter	,,	4.70	4.94	4.94	5.44	5.44	5.89	5.95	5.95	5.95	5.95	5.95	5.90	5.58
,, loin ..	,,	8.30	8.30	8.25	8.75	8.75	9.10	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	8.81
,, chops, loin	,,	8.80	8.90	8.90	9.45	9.45	9.80	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.56
,, ,, leg	,,	10.25	10.30	10.35	11.30	11.30	11.40	12.35	12.35	12.35	11.40	11.45	11.45	11.35
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1945.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1945.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Sago (*a*)	,,	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.82
Currants ..	,,	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned (*a*)	30 oz.	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.94	15.50	15.50	14.33
Pears, canned (*a*) ..	,,	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	15.69	16.44	16.45	14.92
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.95	3.00	3.00	2.95	2.97
Soap	,,	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33
Kerosene	quart	6.53	6.49	6.49	6.49	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.33
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.13	17.13	17.02
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	22.00	21.80	21.80	22.00	25.97
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.85	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90
,, fresh ..	quart	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00
,, rib	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
,, steak, rump ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
,, sausages ..	,,	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
,, ,, brisket	,,	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Mutton, leg ..	,,	9.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.25
,, forequarter	,,	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.33
,, loin ..	,,	9.90	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.20	9.80	9.80	10.34
,, chops, loin	,,	10.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.80	10.00	10.00	10.73
,, ,, leg	,,	10.00	10.90	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.30	10.00	10.00	10.68
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1945.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1945.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.60	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.45	7.40
Tea	lb.	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86
Sago (*a*)	,,	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.01
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.75	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	12.85	12.85	12.85	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.90
Currants ..	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned (*a*)	30 oz.	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	14.75	15.14	13.74
Pears, canned (*a*) ..	,,	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.42	15.38	15.88	13.79
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.20	3.43	3.39	3.28	3.17	3.17	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.28	3.31	3.39	3.27
Soap	,,	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33
Kerosene	quart	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.09	7.00	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.08
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	16.75	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.06
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28 00	28.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	26.00
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Milk, condensed ..	tin	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.41
,, fresh ..	quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	12.83
,, rib	,,	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.10	10.84
,, steak, rump ..	,,	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.90	18.90	18.90	18.00	17.81
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	10.90	10.73
,, sausages ..	,,	7.78	7.78	7.67	7.67	7.67	7.78	7.78	7.78	8.67	8.67	8.78	8.67	8.06
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	12.83
,, ,, brisket	,,	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.45	9.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.35	11.35	11.35	10.45	10.31
Mutton, leg ..	,,	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.46
,, forequarter	,,	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.46
,, loin ..	,,	9.55	9.55	9.50	9.50	9.55	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.00
,, chops, loin	,,	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.46
,, ,, leg	,,	10.90	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.45
Pork, leg ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
,, loin ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
,, chops ..	,,	13.89	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.89	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.98

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1946.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1946.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10
,, self-raising ..	,,	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.27
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.15	14.15	14.15	14.15	14.15	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.19
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.90	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.93
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.83	3.83	3.83	3.88	3.89	3.89	3.88	3.88	3.88	3.86	3.88	3.88	3.87
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	13.23	13.23	12.98	12.85	12.85	12.85	12.90	12.90	12.93	12.93	13.17	13.17	13.00
Currants	,,	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.67
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50
Pears, canned ..	,,	15.89	15.89	15.89	15.89	15.88	15.94	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	15.95
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33	22.33
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.14	3.50	3.43	3.43	3.42	3.33	3.25	3.25	3.33	3.58	4.17	4.00	3.49
Soap	,,	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86
Kerosene	quart	5.94	5.92	5.92	5.88	5.82	5.78	5.82	5.78	5.72	5.72	5.71	5.71	5.81
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05
Cheese, mild ..	,,	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.69	17.36	17.36	17.36	17.50	17.50	17.56
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	24.65	28.25	28.20	28.20	28.20	28.20	28.20	24.50	22.15	22.15	22.15	22.15	25.58
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	21.95	21.95	21.95	21.95	21.95	21.95	21.95	21.95	21.95	22.00	22.00	22.00	21.96
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80
,, fresh ..	quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.65	12.60	12.55	12.60	12.80	12.80	12.60	12.55	12.55	12.50	14.05	14.00	12.85
,, rib	,,	8.10	8.10	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.55	8.55	8.13
,, steak, rump ..	,,	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	23.00	23.00	21.33
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	8.70	8.60	8.50	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	9.50	9.50	8.72
,, sausages ..	,,	9.20	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.20	9.20	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.00	9.00	9.11
Beef (corned) silver side	,,	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.50	11.50	10.67
brisket	,,	8.00	8.00	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.50	8.50	8.14
Mutton, leg ..	,,	8.45	8.45	9.25	9.20	9.35	9.45	9.05	8.60	8.60	8.60	9.45	9.45	8.99
,, forequarter	,,	5.45	5.45	5.95	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.55	5.05	5.05	5.05	5.55	5.55	5.52
,, loin ..	,,	10.30	10.30	10.50	10.60	10.65	10.65	10.60	10.65	10.65	10.70	11.10	11.10	10.65
,, chops, loin	,,	11.00	11.10	11.40	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.45	11.45	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.00	11.48
,, ,, leg	,,	11.00	10.95	11.75	11.70	11.75	11.85	11.45	11.50	11.50	11.50	12.00	12.00	11.58
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	16.60	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	16.07
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.37
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	17.55	17.55	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.37
								18.20	18.20	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.13

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—*continued.*

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1946.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1946.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88	6.88
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.35	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.48
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.33
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.72	3.81	3.81	3.94	3.94	3.92	3.92	3.89	3.92	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.87
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.22	13.22	13.22	13.14
Currants	,,	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.52
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.33	14.33	14.50	14.38	14.38	14.38	14.38	14.33	14.38
Pears, canned ..	,,	15.45	15.45	15.45	15.45	15.44	15.44	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.63	15.63	15.61	15.51
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.56	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.88	2.54
Soap	,,	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11	7.11
Kerosene	quart	6.39	6.36	6.36	6.36	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.19	6.17	6.06	6.06	6.17	6.26
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50
Cheese, mild ..	,,	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	24.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	24.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	25.33
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72
Milk, condensed ..	tin	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.30	10.35	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.35
,, fresh ..	quart	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	13.80	13.70	13.60	13.70	13.40	13.40	13.15	13.10	13.10	13.10	13.05	13.05	13.35
,, rib	,,	11.35	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.10	11.10	10.75	10.65	10.65	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.97
,, steak, rump ..	,,	20.90	20.90	21.00	21.00	20.90	20.90	20.30	20.30	20.30	20.30	20.30	20.30	20.62
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	10.15	10.15	10.15	10.15	10.15	10.15	9.70	9.60	9.85	9.80	9.85	9.85	9.96
,, sausages ..	,,	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.30	7.90	7.90	7.80	7.90	8.00	8.00	8.23
Beef (corned) silver side	,,	12.45	12.35	12.35	12.35	12.25	12.15	11.45	11.40	11.75	11.70	12.15	12.15	12.04
brisket	,,	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.20	9.10	9.10	8.70	8.70	8.85	8.95	9.05	8.95	8.99
Mutton, leg ..	,,	11.25	11.25	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.15	11.00	11.11	11.06	11.50	11.61	11.31
,, forequarter	,,	6.60	6.60	6.75	6.85	6.85	7.00	6.85	6.61	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.68
,, loin ..	,,	9.60	9.55	10.00	10.15	10.15	10.10	9.40	9.22	9.56	9.56	9.83	9.89	9.75
,, chops, loin	,,	10.75	10.75	11.15	11.30	11.20	11.20	10.50	10.28	10.39	10.17	10.78	11.06	10.79
,, ,, leg	,,	11.60	11.40	11.75	11.70	11.70	11.75	11.40	11.33	11.39	11.39	11.61	11.72	11.56
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.80
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.80	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.70
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.65	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.60

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1946.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1946.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09
,, self-raising ..	,,	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.59	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.58
Tea	lb.	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05
Sugar	,,	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93
Rice (Australia) (*a*)	,,	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57	3.57
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	12.66	12.66	12.61	12.61	12.66	12.66	12.66	12.66	12.43	12.14	12.23	12.18	12.51
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.91	6.88
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	4.17	4.08	4.08	4.04	4.13	4.13	4.14	4.14	4.14	4.13	4.13	4.13	4.12
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91	12.91
Currants	,,	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.33	11.35	11.28	11.28	11.20	11.25	11.34
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.58	16.22
Pears, canned ..	,,	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.33	17.09
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33	21.33
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.36	8.36	8.36	8.36	8.37	8.37	8.37	8.37
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.45	2.89	2.89	2.89	2.89	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	3.07	3.16	3.25	2.95
Soap	,,	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.97	6.94	6.94	6.94	6.96
Kerosene	quart	5.37	5.37	5.37	5.37	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.20	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.31
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82	19.82
Cheese, mild ..	,,	15.13	15.13	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14	15.14
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	24.00	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	24.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	25.29
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	22.09	22.09	22.09	22.09	22.14	22.14	22.14	22.14	22.14	22.14	22.14	22.14	22.12
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.82	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.77	9.79
,, fresh ..	quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.70	12.65	12.50	12.05	12.05	13.00	13.90	14.00	12.74
,, rib	,,	6.72	6.72	6.72	6.72	7.00	6.89	6.78	6.17	6.17	6.67	7.61	7.67	6.82
,, steak, rump ..	,,	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.75	17.65	17.55	17.05	17.05	17.15	18.00	18.00	17.52
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	8.05	7.95	7.90	7.50	7.50	8.00	9.00	9.00	8.04
,, sausages ..	,,	8.13	8.13	8.13	8.13	8.19	8.19	8.13	8.06	8.06	8.17	9.00	9.00	8.28
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.95	10.85	10.70	10.05	10.05	10.10	11.00	11.00	10.61
,, ,, brisket	,,	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.25	8.25	8.10	7.60	7.55	8.05	9.00	9.00	8.18
Mutton, leg ..	,,	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.80	8.95	8.70	8.55	8.55	9.05	10.00	10.00	8.88
,, forequarter	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.25	5.35	5.25	5.05	5.05	5.50	6.05	6.05	5.30
,, loin ..	,,	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	8.06	8.11	7.94	7.78	7.78	8.28	8.78	8.83	8.06
,, chops, loin	,,	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.25	9.30	9.15	9.00	9.00	9.50	10.00	10.00	9.27
,, ,, leg	,,	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.69	8.69	8.50	8.50	8.50	9.00	9.83	9.83	8.80
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	16.07	15.13	15.10	15.10	15.10	15.75
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	15.86	16.25	16.30	17.00	17.00	16.12
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	17.13	17.10	18.00	18.00	16.52

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION I.—*continued.*

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1946.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1946.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.15	7.15	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.19
Tea	lb.	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Sago (*a*)	,,	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.20	13.25	13.25	13.20	13.20	13.21
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.80	11.80	11.71
Currants	,,	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.95	9.95	9.91
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38	17.38
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.57	14.51
Pears, canned ..	,,	15.25	15.25	15.25	15.25	15.25	15.25	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.10	15.00	15.00	15.13
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80	20.80
Potatoes	7lb.	8.43	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.78	8.73	8.43	8.72
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.33	2.67	2.47	2.83	2.63	2.80	2.80	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.79
Soap	,,	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36	7.36
Kerosene	quart	5.31	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.17	5.21	5.21	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.89	5.12
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78	14.78
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	24.65	28.40	28.45	28.50	28.50	28.55	28.55	24.94	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	25.88
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30
,, fresh ..	quart	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.75
,, rib	,,	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.75
,, steak, rump ..	,,	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.23
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
,, sausages ..	,,	7.22	7.22	7.33	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44	7.39
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	11.50	11.50	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.50	11.45	11.45	11.50	11.50	11.40	11.47
,, ,, brisket	,,	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.55	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
Mutton, leg ..	,,	10.95	10.95	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	10.55	10.50	10.50	10.55	10.55	11.17
,, forequarter	,,	5.95	5.95	6.45	6.45	6.45	6.45	6.45	5.95	5.95	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.17
,, loin ..	,,	9.15	9.15	9.65	9.75	9.90	9.95	9.95	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.52
,, chops, loin	,,	9.90	9.90	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.40	10.45	10.00	9.90	9.90	10.00	10.00	10.15
,, ,, leg	,,	11.45	11.45	12.35	12.35	12.35	12.30	12.35	11.05	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.64
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.33
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	15.40	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.57
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.90	16.20	16.00	16.00	16.00	15.28

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1946.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1946.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australia) (*a*)	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Sago (*a*)	,,	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.97
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.90	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.94
Currants	,,	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.40	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.50	10.41
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
Pears, canned ..	,,	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.45	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.46
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43	8.43
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.85	2.90	2.90	2.90	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.11	3.11	3.11	2.83	2.89	2.98
Soap	,,	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33
Kerosene	quart	6.24	6.24	6.24	6.23	6.17	6.15	6.12	5.96	5.88	5.88	5.88	5.88	6.07
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	24.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	24.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	25.33
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.92
,, fresh ..	quart	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00
,, rib	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
,, steak, rump ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
,, sausages ..	,,	9.10	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.01
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	11.00	11.00	10.90	10.90	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.98
,, ,, brisket	,,	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Mutton, leg ..	,,	10.00	10.80	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.48
,, forequarter	,,	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
,, loin ..	,,	10.00	10.70	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	9.90	9.90	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.38
,, chops, loin	,,	10.00	10.80	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.48
,, ,, leg	,,	10.00	10.80	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.48
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.53
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	14.87
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	15.20

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarity of supplies.

SECTION I.—*continued.*

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1946.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average 1946.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
,, self-raising ..	,,	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45
Tea	lb.	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05
Sugar	,,	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) (*a*)	,,	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86
Sago (*a*)	,,	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63	7.63
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.05	8.00	8.00	8.04
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.78
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	12.95	12.95	12.95	2.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95
Currants	,,	11.05	11.00	11.05	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Apricots, dried (*a*) ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07	15.07	14.67	14.67	14.67	14.79	14.94	14.94
Pears, canned ..	,,	15.70	15.70	15.70	15.70	15.70	15.70	15.70	15.19	16.00	15.75	15.19	15.25	15.61
Salmon, in tins (*a*) ..	lb.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.33	3.39	3.28	3.33	3.33	3.33	3.44	3.44	3.44	3.56	3.56	4.92	3.53
Soap	,,	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33	7.33
Kerosene	quart	7.06	7.06	7.06	7.06	6.98	6.86	6.88	6.72	6.68	6.68	6.68	6.72	6.87
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Cheese, mild ..	,,	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	24.13	27.88	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	24.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	25.33
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Milk, condensed ..	tin	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45
,, fresh ..	quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.20	14.10	14.10	14.10	13.38
,, rib	,,	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	11.10	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.40
,, steak, rump ..	,,	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	19.10	19.10	19.10	19.10	18.37
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	11.00	12.10	12.00	12.20	12.00	11.30
,, sausages ..	,,	8.56	8.56	8.56	8.56	8.56	8.56	8.56	8.56	8.50	8.63	8.63	8.78	8.59
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.20	14.20	14.20	14.20	13.40
,, ,, brisket	,,	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45	11.75	11.75	11.85	11.75	10.89
Mutton, leg ..	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.75	11.95	11.75	11.95	11.49
,, forequarter	,,	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.60	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.43
,, loin ..	,,	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.00	10.95	10.95	10.95	11.00	11.10	11.10	11.10	10.89
,, chops, loin	,,	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.46
,, ,, leg	,,	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.45	12.45	12.45	12.45	12.45	12.65	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.43
Pork, leg (*a*) ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.60	14.60	14.60	14.15
,, loin (*a*) ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.60	14.60	14.60	14.15
,, chops (*a*) ..	,,	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.60	14.60	14.60	14.15

(*a*) Prices nominal, in some cases, owing to scarcity of supplies.

SECTION II.

Weekly House Rents (*a*) in Metropolitan and Provincial Towns.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.					
	1939.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
NEW SOUTH WALES—						
Sydney	23 3	23 5	23 5	23 5	23 5	23 5
Newcastle	20 0	20 3	20 3	20 4	20 4	20 4
Broken Hill	16 0	15 11	15 9	15 10	15 11	16 0
Goulburn	18 3	18 6	18 6	18 6	18 7	18 7
Bathurst	17 8	17 8	17 8	17 8	17 8	17 8
Five Towns(*b*)	**22 9**	**23 0**	**22 11**	**22 11**	**22 11**	**23 0**
VICTORIA—						
Melbourne	21 5	21 11	21 11	21 10	21 11	21 11
Ballarat	15 0	14 10	14 10	14 11	14 11	15 0
Bendigo	15 4	15 7	15 7	15 7	15 7	15 7
Geelong	19 8	20 0	20 0	19 11	19 11	19 11
Warrnambool	19 4	19 8	19 7	19 7	19 7	19 7
Five Towns(*b*)	**21 0**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**
QUEENSLAND—						
Brisbane	19 2	19 4	19 4	19 5	19 5	19 5
Toowoomba	17 9	18 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	18 1
Rockhampton	16 11	17 3	17 3	17 3	17 3	17 5
Townsville	18 1	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2
Bundaberg	13 5	13 9	14 0	14 1	14 2	14 4
Five Towns(*b*)	**18 8**	**18 10**	**18 11**	**18 11**	**18 11**	**18 11**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—						
Adelaide	19 11	20 1	20 1	20 1	20 1	20 1
Kadina, etc.	8 2	8 0	8 0	8 1	8 1	8 2
Port Pirie	14 11	14 11	14 11	15 0	15 0	14 11
Mount Gambier	14 5	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
Peterborough	15 9	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Five Towns(*b*)	**19 3**	**19 5**	**19 5**	**19 4**	**19 4**	**19 5**
WESTERN AUSTRALIA ..						
Perth	19 9	19 11	19 11	19 11	19 11	19 11
Kalgoorlie	27 8	23 11	21 9	21 9	21 9	22 1
Northam	18 7	18 10	18 10	18 10	18 10	18 11
Bunbury	21 1	20 7	20 4	20 5	20 6	20 6
Geraldton	22 4	22 3	22 2	22 3	22 3	22 4
Five Towns(*b*)	**20 5**	**20 3**	**20 1**	**20 1**	**20 1**	**20 2**
TASMANIA—						
Hobart	20 9	21 0	20 11	20 11	21 0	21 0
Launceston	19 1	19 4	19 4	19 4	19 4	19 5
Burnie	17 6	17 10	17 10	17 10	17 10	17 11
Devonport	16 0	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 2
Queenstown	16 11	16 11	16 10	16 10	16 11	17 0
Five Towns(*b*)	**19 9**	**20 0**	**19 11**	**20 0**	**20 0**	**20 0**
Thirty Towns(*b*)	**21 2**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**
Six Capitals(*b*)	**21 8**	**21 11**	**21 11**	**21 11**	**21 11**	**21 11**

(*a*) The rents are shown to the nearest penny. Revised series comparable only with averages published since December Quarter, 1936. See footnote (*b*) on page 9 and sub-paragraph (vii) on page 2 as to meaning of these averages. (*b*) Weighted Average.

SECTION III.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1946.

(Particulars extracted from Official Publications and Reports.)

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	AUSTRALIA.								NEW ZEALAND.							
		Sydney.				Melbourne.				Wellington.				Christchurch.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.84	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Flour, ordinary	,,	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.12	4.08	4.08	4.08	4.08
Tea	lb.	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	47.00	47.00	47.00	47.00	46.50	46.25	46.25	46.25
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	14.10	14.15	14.15	14.30	11.35	11.35	11.60	11.60	16.88	16.88	17.25	17.25	16.50	17.25	17.25	17.25
Sugar	lb.	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice	,,	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Oatmeal	,,	3.83	3.89	3.88	3.88	3.81	3.94	3.89	3.86	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70
Raisins	,,	13.23	12.85	12.90	13.17	13.11	13.11	13.11	13.22	11.75	11.75	13.25	11.75	12.25	12.50	12.50	12.50
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	15.50	12.75	14.75	14.13	10.00	9.13	10.13	12.50
Onions	lb.	3.50	3.42	3.25	4.17	2.50	2.50	2.56	2.50	3.00	3.00	3.50	5.50	2.75	2.50	2.75	5.00
Milk	quart	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.45	6.50	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Butter	lb.	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Cheese	,,	17.69	17.69	17.36	17.36	16.28	16.28	16.28	16.28	12.00	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.75	12.00
Eggs	dozen	28.25	28.20	24.50	22.15	28.00	28.00	24.00	22.00	30.00	38.75	26.25	24.25	29.00	38.50	25.25	24.25
Bacon	lb.	21.95	21.95	21.95	22.00	22.72	22.72	22.72	22.72	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Beef, sirloin	,,	12.60	12.80	12.55	14.05	13.70	13.40	13.10	13.05	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.50
,, rib	,,	8.10	8.00	8.05	8.55	11.30	11.10	10.65	10.70	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	7.50	7.50	8.50	9.00
,, steak, rump	,,	21.00	21.00	21.00	23.00	20.90	20.90	20.30	20.30	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.00	15.50
Mutton, leg	,,	8.45	9.35	8.60	9.45	11.25	11.45	11.00	11.50	10.00	10.00	10.50	10.75	10.00	10.00	10.50	11.00
,, chops	,,	10.95	11.75	11.50	12.00	11.40	11.70	11.33	11.61	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.25	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.50

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1946—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	United Kingdom.(a)				Union of South Africa.							
						Capetown.				Johannesburg.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	4.50	4.50	5.14	5.14	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7
Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tea	lb.	34.00	34.00	34.00	34.00	29.6	29.6	29.5	29.8	30.1	29.9	30.0	30.0
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sugar	lb.	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.1
Rice	,,	..	..	..	..	5.0	6.7	7.0	7.0	5.5	7.2	7.5	8.2
Oatmeal	,,	..	..	..	..	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2
Raisins	,,	..	..	..	..	11.5	11.5	11.7	11.8	11.9	11.9	12.4	12.7
Potatoes	7 lb.	8.50	8.25	9.00	6.50	23.1	21.0	22.4	23.1	22.4	21.0	22.4	23.1
Onions	lb.	..	..	..	..	3.3	3.5	3.1	3.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.0
Milk	quart	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.4	9.8	10.0	10.0
Butter	lb.	20.00	20.00	18.00	18.00	27.9	28.0	28.0	28.0	27.9	28.0	28.0	28.0
Cheese	,,	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.0	21.9	22.0	22.0	22.0
Eggs	dozen	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	36.9	48.3	26.4	26.3	36.7	48.1	25.5	25.9
Bacon	lb.	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	27.2	27.3	28.5	29.1	27.1	27.1	28.6	28.7
Beef, sirloin	,,	..	..	..	..	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.4
,, rib	,,	(b) 15.75 (c) 13.00	(b) 15.75 (c) 13.00	(b) 1575 (c) 13.00	(b) 15.75 (b) 13.00	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.5
,, steak, rump	,,	..	..	..	..	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
Mutton, leg	,,	(b) 17.50 (c) 12.00	(b) 17.50 (c) 12.00	(b) 17.50 (c) 12.00	(b) 17.50 (c) 12.00	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	13.7	13.7	13.7	13.7

(a) Average for all towns. (b) British. (c) Chilled or frozen.

SECTION III.—*continued.*

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1946—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	CANADA.								UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.(a)			
		Ottawa.				Montreal.							
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.
Bread	2 lb.	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	17.8	19.0	23.2	23.0
Flour, ordinary ..	2 lb.	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	12.8	12.7	15.3	16.3
Tea	lb.	78.0	77.8	77.8	78.0	78.2	79.0	79.0	79.0	96.0	96.0	96.4	96.4
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sugar	lb.	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	6.7	7.3	7.5	9.1
Rice	,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.8	13.0	14.4	16.4
Oatmeal	,,	5.7	5.9	7.5	7.5	5.7	5.8	6.8	7.2	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.7
Raisins	,,	18.5	19.7	19.4	19.3	17.9	19.1	19.3	19.3	..	..	..	..
Potatoes	7 lb.	23.3	23.7	28.0	18.8	23.2	24.0	26.7	17.9	33.7	37.8	31.6	28.4
Onions	lb.	6.6	7.9	7.7	7.0	6.7	7.3	7.8	6.8	8.4	8.3	5.2	4.6
Milk	quart	10.0	10.0	12.0	15.0	10.0	10.5	12.5	15.5	15.4	15.6	19.3	20.0
Butter	lb.	40.3	44.5	44.3	44.6	40.7	45.5	45.1	45.4	54.7	55.1	76.4	88.6
Cheese	,,	31.7	31.7	31.9	33.2	34.2	34.5	35.0	35.2	37.2	39.4	57.4	69.6
Eggs	dozen	44.7	43.8	57.4	56.5	46.4	45.9	58.4	58.1	50.1	48.7	60.2	69.9
Bacon	lb.	49.8	54.6	53.5	53.6	46.6	50.7	53.3	53.3	41.0	41.7	63.1	76.1
Beef, sirloin	,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, rib	,,	42.9	42.9	44.2	44.3	43.5	43.4	44.2	43.8	33.3	33.8	52.1	55.9
,, steak, rump ..	,,	45.0	44.5	46.6	46.3	42.9	43.1	44.0	44.2	40.8	41.6	63.1	65.6
Mutton, leg	,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for all towns.

SECTION IV.—RETAIL PRICES.

"Court" Index (Second Series) (*a*)—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Prices Index Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure. June Quarter, 1939 to December Quarter, 1946.

(Base : Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1923–27 = 87.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1939.		1945.	1946.			
	June Quarter.	Sept. Quarter.	Dec. Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	Sept. Quarter.	Dec. Quarter
NEW SOUTH WALES—							
Sydney	81.0	81.1	99.7	100.1	101.3	101.5	102.3
Newcastle	78.1	78.0	96.2	96.3	97.1	97.3	98.3
Broken Hill	83.4	82.0	104.2	104.6	105.9	105.9	106.4
Goulburn	79.6	79.5	97.5	97.7	98.5	98.6	99.6
Bathurst	76.5	76.6	95.6	96.1	97.0	97.4	97.6
Five Towns (*b*)	80.8	80.9	99.6	99.8	101.0	101.1	102.1
VICTORIA—							
Melbourne	80.1	79.8	98.9	99.2	100.0	99.9	100.6
Ballarat	75.8	76.1	94.3	94.7	95.1	95.2	95.3
Bendigo	75.6	75.5	95.6	95.7	96.1	96.3	96.9
Geelong	79.0	79.0	96.7	97.1	97.9	97.5	98.4
Warrnambool	79.5	79.8	99.6	99.7	100.3	100.2	100.8
Five Towns (*b*)	79.7	79.6	98.5	98.9	99.7	99.6	100.3
QUEENSLAND—							
Brisbane	75.3	75.3	93.4	94.0	94.8	95.0	96.5
Toowoomba	74.3	74.2	94.6	95.2	95.7	96.2	97.8
Rockhampton	75.1	74.9	93.9	94.4	95.0	95.0	96.6
Townsville	79.6	79.3	96.9	97.7	98.2	98.7	100.5
Bundaberg	73.5	73.3	91.8	92.3	93.0	93.3	94.8
Five Towns(*b*)	75.4	75.4	93.6	94.3	95.0	95.2	96.9
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—							
Adelaide	78.9	78.5	96.2	96.5	97.5	97.5	98.1
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	70.2	70.6	87.4	87.7	88.4	89.0	89.6
Port Pirie	77.7	78.0	94.8	95.0	96.5	96.3	97.0
Mount Gambier	76.1	75.3	93.3	93.8	95.2	95.2	95.9
Peterborough	77.8	77.9	95.4	95.5	96.4	96.3	97.2
Five Towns(*b*)	78.6	78.2	95.8	96.2	97.0	97.1	97.7
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—							
Perth, Fremantle	78.6	78.6	96.3	97.0	98.0	98.1	98.8
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	92.8	93.0	104.5	105.7	106.4	106.4	107.0
Northam	79.8	79.9	96.5	97.5	98.7	98.6	99.2
Bunbury	81.5	81.6	97.0	97.9	98.8	98.9	99.6
Geraldton	84.0	84.0	101.6	102.3	103.4	103.3	103.9
Five Towns(*b*)	79.8	79.8	97.0	97.8	98.7	98.9	99.6
TASMANIA—							
Hobart	78.9	78.7	97.4	97.4	98.4	99.4	100.4
Launceston	77.2	77.0	94.3	94.3	95.3	95.8	96.9
Burnie	76.2	76.3	93.9	93.7	94.9	95.5	95.9
Devonport	74.9	74.8	92.2	92.4	93.6	94.4	94.9
Queenstown	78.7	78.4	97.2	97.3	98.6	100.1	100.3
Five Towns(*b*)	78.0	77.9	96.1	96.1	97.1	97.9	98.9
Thirty Towns(*b*)	79.6	79.5	97.9	98.3	99.3	99.4	100.3
Six Capitals(*b*)	79.7	79.6	98.2	98.6	99.6	99.7	100.5
SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.							
Warwick (Q)	72.2	72.5	93.1	93.5	93.9	94.3	96.3
Port Augusta (S.A.)	76.5	76.6	94.5	94.9	95.8	96.3	97.2

(*a*) See page 37 for explanation. (*b*) Weighted average.

NOTE.—To convert "Court" Index (First Series) (Base = 81.0) to second Series (Base = 87.0), multiply First Series by factor 1.0741 and to convert Second to First Series, multiply by factor 0.931.

SECTION V.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1946.

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at the 31st December, 1946, except in the case of the rates for certain farming occupations and for jewellery, clock and watchmaking employees in Hobart which are the ruling or predominant rates at that date. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 119s. 0d. to 139s. 0d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 113s. 0d. and 118s. 0d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are 44, *see* footnotes below.

GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Coopering—						
Coopers	144 0	161 0	137 6	138 0	150 8	129 6
Furniture—						
Cabinetmakers ..	142 0	139 0	141 7	135 0	132 1	136 0
Carpet Planners ..	142 0	139 0	..	135 0	132 1	136 0
Chairmakers ..	142 0	139 0	141 7	135 0	132 1	136 0
French Polishers ..	142 0	139 0	141 7	135 0	132 1	136 0
Upholsterers ..	142 0	134 0	141 7	130 0	132 1	131 0
Woodcarvers ..	142 0	139 0	141 7	135 9	132 1	136 0
Wood Machinists ..	142 0	119/ to 139/	141 7	115/ to 135/	128 1	116/ to 136/
Mattress Making—Wire—						
Finishers	137 0	127 0	135 2	123 0	..	124 0
Makers	137 0	123 6	135 2	119 6	128 1	120 6
Picture Framing—						
Compo. Workers ..	130 0	119 0	124 0	115 0	117 1	116 0
General Hands ..	130 0	119 0	124 0	115 0	117 1	116 0
Gilders	130 0	122 0	124 0	118 0	117 1	119 0
Mount Cutters ..	130 0	122 0	124 0	118 0	117 1	119 0
Saw Milling and Timber Yards—						
Box and Casemakers	125 0	123 0	115 3	119 0	109 7	120 0
Labourers ..	111 0	109 0	114 3	105 0	104 1	106 0
Machinists—						
Box Printing ..	117 0	115 0	..	111 0	..	112 0
Boults Carver ..	138 0	136 0	123 7	132 0	126 7	133 0
Nailing	118 0	116 0	115 3	112 0	109 7	113 0
Planing	119/ to 132/	117/ to 130/	116 3	113/ to 126/	116/7 & 122/7	114/ to 127/
Shaping	138 0	136 0	136 9	132 0	126 7	133 0
Ordermen	125 0	123 0	121 9	119 0	116 1	120 0
Saw Doctors ..	147 0	145 0	139 3	141 0	137 1	142 0
Sawyers—						
Band or Jig ..	126/ to 141/	124/ to 139/	133 7	120/ to 135/	113/7 & 119/7	121/ to 136/
Circular ..	126/ to 134/	124/ to 132/	124 3	120/ to 128/	111/7 & 119/7	121/ to 129/
Stackers	113/ & 118/	111/ & 116/	114 3	107/ & 112/	107 1	108 & 113/
Wood Turners ..	138 0	136 0	123 7	132 0	125 1	133 0

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Agricultural Implements						
Assemblers ..	129 0	119/ & 123/	114 0	115/ & 119/	109/7 & 113/1	123 0
Bulldozermen ..	..	124 0	..	120 0	..	..
Drillers	125/ to 144/	120 0	..	115 0	..	119 0
Fitters	129/ to 144/	125/ to 130/	..	121/ to 126/	117/1 & 120/1	123/ to 138/
Labourers—unskilled	111 0	109 0	..	105 0	102 1	104 0
Machinists—Iron ..	125/ to 144/	117/ to 142/	..	113/ to 138/	119/1 & 138/1	119/ to 138/
Painters—Brush ..	120 0	118 0	..	114 0	..	113 0
Scroll ..	119 0	127 0	..	123 0	..	113 0
Patternmakers ..	152 0	150 0	..	146 0	146 1	146 0
Sheet Iron Workers	132 0	130 0	..	126 0	..	126 0
Strikers	120/ & 122/	118/ & 120/	..	114/ & 116/	114 1	113/ & 116/

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(1) 36 hours. (2) 38 hours. (3) 38½ hours. (4) 39 hours. (5) 40 hours. (6) 41 hours. (7) 41½ hours. (8) 42 hours. (9) 43 hours. (10) 43½ hours. (11) 45 hours. (12) 46 hours. (13) 47 hours. (14) 47½ hours. (15) 48 hours. (16) 55 hours. (17) 56 hours. (18) 62 hours. (19) 40 and 44 hours. (20) 42 and 44 hours. (21) 80 hours per fortnight. (22) 88 hours per fortnight.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Boiler Making—						
Journeymen ..	144 0	142 0	140 8	138 0	138 1	139 0
Railwaymen ..	144 0	142 0	142 6	138 0	138 1	139 0
Brassworking—						
Coremakers ..	123/ & 144/	121/ & 143/	140 8	117/ & 139/	138 1	118/ 140/
Dressers	122/ & 127/	120/ & 125/	114 4	116/ & 121/	116/1 & 118/1	117/ & 122/
Finishers	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	140 8	126/ to 138/	138 1	127/ to 139/
Furnacemen ..	126/ to 141/	124/ to 139/	114/4 & 140/8	120/ to 135/	120 1	121/ to 136/
Moulders	123/ to 144/	121/ to 142/	130 to 140/8	117/ to 138/	138 1	118/ to 139/
Cycles—						
Assemblers ..	120 0	124/6 to 130/	122/9 to 138/4	109 6	112/1 to 116/1	129 & 132/
Frame Builders ..	129 0	130/ & 132/3	134 8	118 6	..	129/ & 136/
Repairers	129 0	130/ & 132/3	134 8	118 6	..	129/ & 136/
Turners (Motor) ..	141 0	139 0	133 4	135 0	138 1	126 0
Electrical Installation—						
Cable Jointers ..	141/ & 143/	139/ & 141/	141 10	135/ & 137/	129 1	136/ & 138/
Fitters	144 0	142 0	141 1	138 0	138 1	139 0
Mechanics	144 0	142 0	141 1	138 0	138 1	139 0
Patrolmen	122/6 & 135/	120/6 & 133/	116 9	116/6 & 129/	126 1	117/6 & 130/
Wiremen	135 0	133 0	139 1	129 0	126 1	130 0
Other Adults ..	..	..	114 0	..	102 1	..
Electrical Supply—						
Armature Winders ..	150 0	142 0	141 10	138 0	138 1	139 0
Cable Jointers ..	150 0	139/ & 141/	139 1	135/ & 137/	129 1	136/ & 138/
Instrument Makers ..	150 0	142 0	141 10	138 0	138 1	139 0
Linesmen	144 0	133 0	139 1	129 0	129 1	130 0
Meter Testers ..	144 0	127/ & 132/	..	123/ & 128/	..	124/ & 129/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	120/6 & 133/	124 10	116/6 & 129/	..	117/6 & 130/
Shift Electricians ..	150 0	124/ & 142/	165 10	120/ & 138/	..	121/ & 139/
Switchboard Attendants	..	131 6	114 0	127 6	..	128 6
Other Adults ..	123 0	109 0	114 0	105 0	102 1	106 0
Electrical Trades—						
Fitters	144 0	142 0	141 10	138 0	138 1	139 0
Mechanics	144 0	142 0	139 1	138 0	138 1	139 0
Wiremen	135 0	133 0	139 1	129 0	129 1	130 0
Electroplating—						
Platers	119/ to 144/	117/ to 142/	129 0	113/ to 138/	113/1 to 138/1	114/ to 139/
Polishers	127 0	125 0	123/6 to 129/	121 0	121 1	122 0
Engineering—						
Blacksmiths ..	145 0	143 0	144 4	139 0	138 1	140 0
Borers and Slotters ..	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	140 8	126/ to 138/	138 1	127/ to 139/
Brassfinishers ..	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	140 8	126/ to 138/	138 1	127/ to 139/
Coppersmiths ..	145 0	143 0	144 4	139 0	138 1	140 0
Drillers—Radial ..	121/ to 144/	119/ to 142/	121 8	115/ to 138/	138 1	116/ to 139/
Fitters	144 0	142 0	140 8	138 0	138 1	139 0
Millers	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	140 8	126/ to 138/	138 1	127/ to 139/
Patternmakers ..	152 0	150 0	156 0	146 0	146 1	147 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	119 0	126/ to 138/	116 1	127/ to 139/
Other	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	140 8	126/ to 138/	138 1	127/ to 139/
Shapers	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	140 8	126/ to 138/	138 1	127/ to 139/
Turners	144 0	142 0	140 8	138 0	138 1	139 0
Ironworking—Assistants—						
Boilermakers' Helpers	120 0	118 0	114 4	114 0	114 1	115 0
,, Labourers	120 0	118 0	112 8	114 0	120 1	115 0
Engineers' Labourers	120 0	118 0	112 8	114 0	114 1	115 0
Furnacemen's Assists.	120 0	118 0	112 8	114 0	114 1	115 0
Moulders' Labourers ..	120 0	118 0	112 8	114 0	114 1	115 0
Strikers	120/ & 122/	118/ & 120/	114 4	114/ & 116/	114 1	115/ & 117/

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Moulding—Iron—						
Coremakers—Machine	123/ to 134/	121/ to 132/	140 8	117/ to 128/	123 1	118/ to 129/
,, Other ..	144 0	142 0	140 8	138 0	138 1	139 0
Dressers and Fettlers	122/ & 125/	120/ & 123/	114 4	116/ & 119/	116/1 & 118/1	117/ & 120/
Furnaceman ..	126/ to 141/	124/ to 139/	114/4 to 123/8	120/ to 135/	120/1 to 135/1	121/ to 136/
Moulders—Machine ..	123/ to 134/	121/ to 132/	130 0	117/ to 128/	123 1	118/ to 129/
,, Other ..	144 0	142 0	140 8	138 0	138 1	139 0
Sheet Metal Working—						
Canister Makers ..	123 0	121 0	120 7	117 0	114 1	118 0
Japanners—						
Coating or Brush-work	119 0	117 0	122 5	113 0	..	114 0
Ornamental ..	132 0	130 0	119 5	126 0	..	127 0
Solderers	119/ to 123/	117/ to 121/	126 3	113/ to 117/	110 1	114/ to 118/
Tinsmiths	132/ to 144/	130/ to 142/	126 3	126/ to 138/	122/1 & 130/1	127/ to 139/
Nailmaking—						
Case Wirers ..	117 0	109 0	107 3	98 6	..	..
Labourers	117 0	109 0	..	98 6	..	..
Setters Up	134 0	121 0	107 3	98/6 & 113/	..	..
Wire Working—						
Journeymen ..	132 0	124 0	..	113 6	112 7	..

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Aerated Water and Cordials—						
Bottlers	114 6	112 6	105 0	106 0	107 1	116 6
Drivers (Motor) ..	121/ to 128/	120/ to 127/	117/ to 125/	116/ to 123/	114 1	114/ to 121/
,, (One Horse) ..	116 0	115 0	115 0	111 0	114 1	109 0
Packers	112 0	110 0	105 0	103 0	107 1	114 6
Wirers	112 0	110 0	..	103 0	107 1	114 6
Baking (Bread)—						
Board hands ..	148 0	148 4	123/ to 128/	129 6	134 7	135 0
Carters (One Horse) ..	137 0	115 0	119 0	111 0	118/7 to 124/7	110 0
Doughmen	158/ &160/6	147 4	120 6	134 6	139 7	135 0
Ovenmen	155 6	147 4	128 0	129 6	134 7	135 0
Singlehands ..	153 0	158 6	130 6	134 6	139 7	140 0
Baking (Biscuits and Cakes)—						
Adult Males ..	114 0	113 0	109 0	98 6	112 1	..
Bakers	129 0	123 0	116 6	101 6	122 1	123 6
Mixers	118/ & 120/	120 0	116 6	101 6	112 1	128 0
Brewing—						
Adult Males ..	127 0	119 0	[5]116 0	122 6	120 0	115 0
Bottlers and Washers	127 0	119 0	[5]116 0	122 6	120 0	115 0
Cellarmen	127/ & 130/	122 3	[5]116 0	122 6	120 0	117 6
Drivers (Two Horses)	131 0	120 0	121 0	125 6	120 0	114 0
,, (Motor under 3 tons) ..	136 0	120/ to 124/	121/ to 129/	128 6	130 0	114/ to 118/
Towermen	130 0	123 0	[5]116 0	129 6	123 0	122 6
Butchering (Carcass)—						
Chilling Room Hands	125/ & 129/	145 6	122 6	117/9 to 125/6	117 1	133 6
Labourers (Beef) ..	128 0	116 0	110 0	117 9	112 1	114 0
,, (Mutton) ..	122 0	116 0	110 0	117 4	112 1	114 0
Scalders	159 0	125 0	122 6	129 4	112 1	114 0
Slaughtermen (Beef) ..	200 6	142 0	132 6	145 1	129 7	143 6
,, (Mutton)	(*a*)	142 0	132 6	140 6	129 7	143 6

(*a*) Piecework rates.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Butchering (Retail)—						
Carters (Cash Cutting)	133 0	131 0	126 0	127 0	123 1	113 0
„ (one horse) ..	117 0	115 0	110 0	111 0	107 1	109 0
General Hands ..	136 0	134 0	129 0	130 0	123 1	121 0
Shopmen	136 0	134 0	129 0	130 0	123/1 to 127/1	128 6
Smallgoodsmen ..	136 0	134 0	129 0	130 0	123 1	128 6
Cold Storage and Ice—						
Chamber Hands ..	128/ to 135/	145 6	113 9	120 0	109 7	123 9
Pullers and Stackers..	128/ & 135/	133 5	117 0	120 0	109 7	123 9
Confectionery—						
Journeymen ..	134 0	123 0	117 6	103/6 to 109/	117/1 to 142/7	119 0
Storemen	113 0	116/ to 120/	114 0	117 0	118 10	118 0
Ham and Bacon Curing—						
Curers—First Hand ..	149 0	145 0	152 0	141 0	130 1	128 6
Cutters Up—First Hand	135 0	145 0	145 8	141 0	123 1	128 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	123 0	132 0	119 0	116 7	121 0
Lardmen	119 6	123/ &132/6	137 0	119/ &128/6	116/7 & 120/7	121 0
Rollers and Trimmers	127 0	132 6	130 0	128 6	..	121 0
Scalders	134 0	132 6	143 0	128 6	123 1	121 0
Slaughtermen ..	139 0	145 0	154 5	141 0	116 7	136 6
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	136 0	133 0	152 1	129 0	130 1	128 6
Smokers—First Hand	129 0	132 6	142 11	128 6	130 1	128 6
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Adult Males ..	115 0	115 0	110 0	115 0	102 1	115 0
Solderers	122 0	122 0	126 3	122 0	110 1	122 0
Malting—						
Maltsters	122 0	122 0	105 0	122 6	120 0	159 0
Milling—Condiments—						
Grinders	133 0	126 0	115 6	..	..	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	133 0	125 0	106 6	..	..	..
Stone Dressers ..	133 0	133 6	106 6	..	..	..
Milling—Flour—						
Millers—Head ..	151 0	151 0	139 6	151 0	151 0	135 9
„ Shift ..	145/6 to 156/	145/6 to 156/	131/ to 139/	145/6 to 156/	145/6 to 156/	126/3 to 134/9
Packermen	130 6	130 6	119 6	130 6	130 6	116 9
Purifiermen ..	131 6	131 6	119 6	131 6	131 6	112 0
Silksmen	131 6	131 6	119 6	131 6	131 6	112 0
Storemen—Head ..	133/6 & 138/6	133/6 & 138/6	124 6	133/6 & 138/6	133/6 & 138/6	121 0
Topmen	131 6	131 6	119 6	131 6	131 6	116 9
Truckers and Others..	120/6 & 126/6	120/6 & 126/6	..	120/6 & 126/6	120/6 & 126/6	112 0
Milling—Oatmeal—						
Kilnmen . ..	123 0	121 0	106 6	..	..	112/ &116/9
Millers—Head ..	133 6	133 6	119/6 to 134/6	..	..	135 9
Pastrycooking—						
Carters	120 2	115 0	115 0	111 0	111 7	110 0
Pastrycooks ..	134 6	138 0	133 0	129 6	126/1 & 131/1	128 7

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmaking—						
Bootmakers ..	135 6	135 6	135 6	135 6	122 1	135 6
Tailoring—Order—						
Cutters	186 6	146 0	146 0	146 0	142 1	146 0
Pressers	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	121 1	136 0
Tailors	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	121 1	136 0
Trimmers	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	121 1	136 0

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Tailoring—Ready-made—						
Cutters	139 0	139 0	139 0	139 0	122 1	139 0
Folders	119 6	119 6	119 6	119 6	..	119 6
Machinists	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	..	136 0
Pressers	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	121 1	136 0
Tailors	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	121/1 & 122/1	136 0
Trimmers	136 0	136 0	136 0	136 0	121 1	136 0
Textile-Working—Woollen Mills—						
Carders	114 0	114 0	110 0	111 0	114 0	114 0
Dyehousemen ..	115 0	115 0	110 0	112 0	115 0	115 0
Labourers—General ..	108 0	108 0	106 0	105 0	108 0	108 0
Pattern Weavers ..	117 0	117 0	..	114 0	117 0	117 0
Scourers	118/6 to 121/	118/6 to 121/	110 0	115/ to 118/	118/6 to 121/	118/6 to 121/
Spinners	114 0	114 0	116 0	113 0	114 0	114 0
Tuners	115/ to 132/	115/ to 132/	110/ to 120/	112/ to 129/	115/ to 132/	115/ to 132

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bookbinding—						
Bookbinders ..	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Finishers	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Marblers	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Paper Rulers ..	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Engraving (Process)—(*a*)						
Engravers ..	140 6	139/ & 144/	..	117 6	132 1	..
Etchers—Half-tone ..	146 6	139/ & 144/	135 0	130/ & 140/	132 1	..
Etchers—Line ..	140 6	139/ & 144/	130 0	121/ & 131/	125 1	..
Operators	146 6	139/ & 144/	135 0	..	132 1	..
Printers	140 6	139/ & 144/	125 0	111/ & 121/	125 1	..
Routers	125 6	139 0	122 0	111/ & 121/	116 10	..
Lithographing—						
Printers	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Rotary Machinists ..	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Stone Polishers ..	118 0	118 0	112 0	114 0	113 0	114 0
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—						
Compositors—						
Day Work ..	[5]174 6	[5]162/6 & 179/	139/ to 147/4	159 0	163 7	154 6
Night Work ..	[5]184 6	[5]172/6 to 189/	[21]156/4 & 168/	[8]168 0	[8]176 4	[5]163 6
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work ..	[5]174 6	[5]147 0	139 6	119 0	150 10	118 6
Night Work ..	[5]184 6	[5]162 0	[21]148 6	[8]128 0	[8]163 7	[5]127 6
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work ..	[5]205/6 & 215/6	[5]177 0	133 6	159 0	[5]172 11	154 6
Night Work ..	[5]215/6 & 225/6	[5]192 0	[21]142 6	[8]168 0	[5]185 8	[5]163 6
Machinists (First Hand)—						
Day Work ..	[5]174 6	[5]177 0	156 0	159 0	155 1	154 6
Night Work ..	[5]184 6	[5]192 0	[21]165 0	[8]168 0	[8]167 10	[5]163 6
Publishers	[5]154/6 & 164/6	[5]144/6 & 159/6	115 /to 131/	126 0	[8]139/9 & 152/6	121 6
Readers—						
Day Work ..	[5]182 6	[5]162 6	143 6	150 0	163 7	145 6
Night Work ..	[5]192 6	[5]172 6	[21]152 6	[5]159 0	[8]176 4	[5]154 6
Readers' Assistants—						
Day Work ..	[5]151 6	[5]131 0	122 6	123 0	134 8	118 6
Night Work ..	[5]161 6	[5]133/6 & 141/	131 6	[8]132 0	[8]147 5	[5]127 6
Stereotypers (First Class)—						
Day Work ..	[5]167 0	[5]164 6	130 0	138 0	148 9	133 6
Night Work ..	[5]177 0	[5]179 6	[21]139 0	[8]147 0	[8]151 5	[5]142 6

(*a*) Other than in newspaper offices.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP V.— BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	[20]140/ & 149/	[20]139/ & 148/	[20]133/ & 142/	[20]135/ & 144/	[20]133/ & 143/	[20]135/ & 144/
Electrotypers ..	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
General Hands ..	110 0	109 0	103 0	105 0	104 0	105 0
Linotype Operators ..	149 0	148 0	142 0	144 0	143 0	144 0
Machinists	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Monotype Operators	149 0	148 0	142 0	144 0	143 0	144 0
Monotype Casting Machinists ..	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0
Readers	143 0	142 0	136 0	138 0	137 0	138 0
Stereotypers ..	140 0	139 0	133 0	135 0	134 0	135 0

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Brickmaking—						
Burners	138/ & 143/6	124 0	116 0	109 4	127 1	123 9
Carters—Two horses ..	126 6	120 0	120 0	116 0	116 7	114 0
Drawers	138 0	141/ & 143/6	115 6	117 4	(*a*)	123 9
Labourers	116 0	133 0	110 6	106 4	113 7	121 0
Machinemen ..	129/9 & 135/3	138 0	115 6	109/4 & 113/4	113 7	121 0
Panmen	123/ & 138/	136/ & 140/	111 8	109 4	113 7	121 0
Pitmen . ..	135 3	146/ & 152/	112 6	114 4	113 7	121 0
Setters	138 0	141/ & 143/6	114 0	117 4	121 7	126 9
Wheelers	132 6	135 6	112 6	106 4	116 7	121 0
Brushmaking—						
Bass Broom Drawers	130 6	126 0	122 6	123 6	117 1	..
Finishers	130 6	126 0	122 6	123 6	117 1	..
Machinists—Boring ..	130 6	126 0	122 6	123 6	117 1	..
Paint Brush Makers ..	135 0	131 0	122 6	127 6	117 1	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers	116 6	130 6	..	126 6	..	..
General Hands ..	113 0	120/ to 125/	..	116/ to 121/	102 1	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	120 0	130 6	..	126 6	112 1	..
Moulders	120 0	125 0	..	126 6	111 1	..
Stillmen	123 0	130 6	..	126 6	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Guillotine and other Cutters	122/ to 131/6	120/ to 130/6	120 0	117/ to 126/6	117/ to 126/6	117/ to 126/6
Other Adults ..	110 0	109 0	107 6	105 0	105 0	105 0
Coachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	140/ & 144/	138/ & 142/	132 2	134/ & 138/	132 1	135/ & 139
Labourers	111 0	109 0	109 6	105 0	102 1	106 0
Painters	122/6 to 140/	120/6 to 138/	132 2	116/6 to 134/	129 1	117/6 to 135/
Smiths	145 0	143 0	132 2	139 0	132 1	140 0
Trimmers	140 0	138 0	132 2	134 0	129 1	135 0
Wheelmaking Machinists	124/ to 144/	122/ to 142/	130 3	118/ to 138/	125 1	119/ to 139/
Wheelwrights ..	140 0	138 0	130 3	134 0	129 1	135 0
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	123 0	122 0	124 0	118 0	107 1	115 0
Green Hands ..	123 0	122 0	124 0	118 0	107 1	115 0
Limepit Men ..	123 0	122 0	124 0	118 0	107 1	115 0
Machinists	126 0	125 0	127 0	121 0	110 1	118 0
Soakhole Men ..	126 0	125 0	127 0	121 0	110 1	118 0
Wool Sorters ..	133/ to 138/	132/ to 137/	134/ to 139/	128/ to 133/	120/1 to 125/	125/ to 130/

(*a*) Piece-work rates.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gas Making and Supply—						
Coke Trimmers ..	120 0	117 0	111 0	116 6	111 1	114 0
Gas Fitters ..	146 0	154 10	131 7	143 0	141 10	140 10
Labourers	111 0	109 0	111 0	108 0	111 1	106 0
Mainlayers ..	116 0	128 0	128 0	138/ to 141/	123 1	125 0
Metermakers ..	142 0	140 0	..	141/ to 158/	133 1	124 0
Meter Testers ..	119/ to 129/	133 9	..	126 0	..	124/ to 129/
Service Layers ..	134 0	128 0	128 0	143 0	123 1	125 0
Stokers	132 0	125/ to 133/	138 0	126/ & 128/	117 1	122/ to 130/
Glassfounding—						
Furnacemen ..	116/6 & 131/	118 0	..	113 6	..	..
Labourers	110 0	109 0	..	104 6	..	..
Lehrmen	113 0	112 6	..	108 0	..	..
Sorters	113 6	111 6	..	107 0	..	..
Glass Working and Glazing						
Bevellers	141 10	134 0	128 0	130 0	142 0	131 0
Cutters and Glaziers	138 6	134 0	122 0	130 0	142 0	131 0
Lead Light Glaziers ..	138 6	134 0	122 0	130 0	142 0	131 0
Silverers	141 10	134 0	131 7	130 0	..	131 0
Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—						
Chainmakers ..	134 0	133 6	117 0	115 6	126 1	[5]165 0(*a*)
Engravers	134 0	133 6	117/ to 119/	117 6	126 1	[5]165 0(*a*)
Mounters	134 0	133 6	117/ to 119/	123 6	126 1	[5]165 0(*a*)
Setters	134 0	133 6	..	123 6	126 1	[5]165 0(*a*)
Watch and Clock-makers and Repairers	143 0	108/ to 128/	122 6	124 0	127 1	[5]142 0(*a*)
Masonry—Marble and Stone—						
Carvers	[5]182 2	[5]175 0	163 0	[5]170 0	141 10	..
Machinists—						
Carborundum ..	[5]155 6	133/ & 141/	163 0	128/ to 136/	102 1	..
Other	[5]132 2	[5]133/ to 147/	163 0	[5]128/ to 142/	102 1	..
Masons	[5]155 6	[5]147 0	163 0	[5]142 0	141 10	140 0
Paper Bag Making—						
Guillotine Cutters ..	123 0	122 0	133 0	117 0	117 0	117 0
Machinists	128 6	127 6	133 0	122 6	122 6	122 6
Paper Making—						
Beatermen	137/ & 139/	137 0	..	..	..	121 6
Breakermen ..	112 0	122/ to 125/	..	..	..	105 0
Guillotine Men ..	124 0	120 0	..	..	..	111 0
Machinists	135/ & 142/	140 0	..	..	..	129/ & 139/
Ragboilermen ..	124 0	120/ to 125/	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	112 0	110 0	..	..	..	99 0
Potteries—General—						
Burners—Head ..	115 0	121 0	115 6	109 4	116 1	117 0
Hollow-ware Pressers	131 0	116 0	118 0	109 4	116 1	117 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	137 0	117 0	118 0	109 4	116 1	117 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	138/ & 141/	123 0	129 0	..	116 1	120 0
Potteries—Pipemaking—						
Burners—Head ..	134 0	121 0	125 6	116 6	116 1	117 0
Drawers	126 6	115 0	115 6	110 6	102 1	..
Moulders	133 6	111 0	112 6	120 6	116 1	114 0
Mould Makers ..	126 6	123 0	118 0	120 6	114 1	..
Setters	130 6	119 0	124 0	113/6 & 116/6	106/1 to 117/1	115 6
Quarrying—						
Borers—						
Hand or Machine ..	133 10	134 0	114 2	115 6	110 10	118 0
Dressers	140 0	141 0	117 10	115 6	..	112 7
Facemen	134 10	137 0	114 2	115 6	..	112 7
Hammermen ..	131 4	141 0	114 2	115 6	110 10	112 7
Machine Feeders ..	136 8	134 0	109/7 & 113/8	115 6	116 7	118 0
Quarrymen ..	140 0	..	117 10	115 6	110 10	121 6

(*a*) Ruling or predominant rates, see note at commencement of table.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Rubber Working—						
Calendar Hands ..	136/ & 141/	134/ & 139/	121/ & 125/	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	116 0	114 0	..	..	..	124 0
Dough Mixers ..	116 0	114 0	117 6	..	..	..
Hosemakers ..	120/ & 127/	118/ & 125/	117 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands ..	120/ to 124/6	118/ to 122/6	117 6	..	..	..
Mill Hands .	118/ & 127/	116/ 125/	117 6		..	..
Spreaders	121/ & 127/	119/ & 125/	117 6	..	..	..
Surgical Packing, and other Makers ..	120/ & 129/	118/ & 127/	112/6 & 117/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	118/ to 124/6	116/ to 122/6	112 6	110 3	..	124 0
Saddlery and Harness-making—						
Harness makers ..	131 0	131 0	131 0	128 0	124 1	131 0
Saddlers	131 0	131 0	131 0	128 0	124 1	131 0
Sail Making—						
Sailmakers	131 0	131 0	131 0	128 0	..	131 0
Ship Building—						
Carpenters and Joiners	158 4	158 4	158 4	158 4	158 4	158 4
Dockers	155 10	155 10	155 10	155 10	155 10	155 10
Painters	155 10	155 10	155 10	155 10	155 10	155 10
Shipwrights ..	153 2	153 2	153 2	153 2	153 2	153 2
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	113 0	119/ to 123/6	110 0	115/6 to 119/6	102 1	103/ & 108/
Mixers	120 0	122/ to 131/	110 0	119/ to 122/	109 1	108 0
Soap Makers ..	135 0	133 6	110 0	..	112 1	128 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beammen	125 0	125 0	125 0	125 0	125 0	125 0
Curriers	140 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	140 0
Japanners or Enamellers	126 6	126 6	126 6	126 6	126 6	126 6
Limemen	123 0	123 0	123 0	123 0	123 0	123 0
Machinists—						
Fleshing	130 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	130 0
Scouring	121 0	121 0	121 0	121 0	121 0	121 0
Splitting	138 0	138 0	138 0	138 0	138 0	138 0
Unhairing ..	125 0	125 0	125 0	125 0	125 0	125 0
Rollers and Strikers ..	125 6	125 6	125 6	125 6	125 6	125 6
Tablemen	125/ & 125/6	125/ & 125/6	125/ & 125/6	125/ & 125/6	125/ & 125/6	125/ & 125/6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters	125 0	125 0	125 0	121 0	..	125 0
Machinists	125 0	125 0	125 0	121 0	..	125 0
Sewers—Hand ..	125 0	125 0	125 0	121 0	..	125 0
Tent Makers ..	125 0	125 0	125 0	121 0	124 1	125 0

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Building—						
Bricklayers—						
Sewer and Tunnel..	163 0	168 10	[5]163 9	127 0	147 4	146/ & 152/
Surface	155 0	163 6	[5]136 9	127 0	141 4	140 0
Carpenters	155 2	163 6	[5]139 6	145 0	141 10	140 0
Labouring (Builders)..	117 0	136 4	[5]119 3	111 0	110 7	112 0
Lathers	157 0	163 6	..	..	141 4	140 0
Metal Cellers ..	142 6	163 6	..	..	141 4	140 0
Masons	[5]182 2	147 0	[5]163 0	127 0	141 10	140 0
Painters, Paperhangers	145 6	163 6	[5]136 9	122 6	140 10	140 0
Signwriters ..	152 10	163 6	[5]136 9	122 6	140 10	140 0

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP VII.—BUILDING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Building—*continued*—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Plasterers—						
Sewer or Tunnel ..	160 6	167 7	[5]143/9 to 148/9	127 0	141/4 & 147/4	146/ & 152/
Surface	155 0	163 6	[5]136 9	127 0	141 4	140 0
Plumbers, Gasfitters..	153 10	163 6	[5]136 9	134 2	141 10	141 10
Slaters	152 6	163 6	[5]136 9	..	..	..
Tilers	152 6	163 6	[5]136 9	..	141 4	..
Tuckpointers ..	152 6	163 6	[5]136 9	127 0	..	..
Water Supply and Sewerage—						
Concrete Workers ..	119/9 to 132/7	143 2	119/ & 128/2	108/ to 115/	108 1	109/ to 118/
Labourers	118/3 to 129/	120 8	110/ to 113/6	103 0	102 1	106 0
Miners—Sewer ..	140/10 to 159/9	130/8 to 136/2	134 6	112/ & 115/	111/1 to 122/1	118 0
Pipe-jointers and Setters	128/ to 134/3	132 8	114/6 to 125/	112/ to 136/	114/1 to 120/1	124 0

GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coal Mining—						
Blacksmiths ..	[5]148 0	[5]150 0	[5]115/ to 153/10	..	[3]138 1	[5]143 10
Bracemen	[5]142 2	[5]133 0	[5]131/10 to 164/2	..	..	..
Carpenters	[5]152 7	[5]150 0	[5]141/ to 157/8	..	..	[5]133 0
Deputies	[5]132/7 & 138/10	[5]137 2	[5]148/11 & 164/4	..	..	..
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	[5]143/6 to 168/1	[5]141/9 & 146/4	[5]136/6 to 140/	..	[5]139/7 & 145/1	[5]138/11 & 141/10
Other	[5]135/7 to 147/11	[5]138 9	[5]131/ to 159/	..	..	[5]120/2 to 144/4
Labourers—						
Surface	[5]132 7	[5]117/7 & 122/7	[5]125/11 to 142/2	..	[3]120/1 & 125/8	[5]128 5
Underground ..	[5]135 6	[5]125/1 & 130/1	[5]125/11 to 132/2	..	..	..
Miners—						
Machine	(*a*)	(*a*)	[5]142/7 to 165/6	..	[3]137/1 & 176/6	[5]145 1
Manual—Dry Work	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)	..	[3]137/1 & 141/7	..
Platmen or Banksmen	..	[5]139 3	[5]127 9	..	[3]120/2 to 135/3	..
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	[5]132/7 to 149/8	[5]139 3	[5]138/10 to 142/2	..	[3]137/1 to 166/4	[5]142 2
Wet Work ..	..	[5]145 6	[5]147/11 to 151/2	..	..	..
Shotfirers	[5]170 2	..	[5]138/10 to 154/8	..	[3]131/7 & 146/8	..
Timbermen.. ..	[5]149/8 to 154/8	[5]143 5	[5]138/10 & 154/8	..	[3]137/1 to 152/2	..
Weighmen	[5]136 9	..	..	..	..	..
Wheelers	[5]136/4 to 138/10	[5]131 11	[5]129/3 to 147/7	..	[3]123/10 to 138/11	[5]128 5
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—					(*b*)	
Battery Feeders ..	111/ to 119/	109/ to 112/	[19]115/4 to 136/5	106 6	[5]127 0	106/ & 110/
Bracemen	[5]117/6 to 125 6	117/ & 120/	[19]108/ to 129/	[5]106/ to 111/6	[5]136 0	[5]113/ to 117/

(*a*) Piece-work rates. (*b*) Excludes district allowances.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP VIII.—MINING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.* (*a*)	*s. d.*
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—*contd.*						
Engine Drivers—						
Stationary ..	117/ to 136/	115/ to 124/	[10]115/ to 150/2	..	[5]141/ to 148/	113/ to 120/
Winding and Loco.	123/ to 145/	118/ to 134/	[19]129/ to 159/4	[5]106 6	[6]144/ to 180/	113/ to 130/
Firemen	112/6 to 125/6	114/ to 128/2	[19]114/ to 128/2	..	[5]133/ to 138/	104/ to 111/
Labourers	111/ to 119/	109/ & 112/	[19]108/3 to 125/5	106 6	[5]127 0	106/ to 110/
Miners—						
Machine	[5]125/ to 140/6	112/ to 118/	[19]118/6 to 146/6	..	[5]140/ to 147/	[5]106/ to 113/
Manual—						
Dry Work ..	[5]125/ to 135/6	118/ to 127/	[19]111/ to 137/4	[5]106 6	[5]135/ to 142/	[5]113/ to 122/
Wet Work ..	[5]130/ to 140/6	123/ to 132/	[19]118/6 to 146/6	[5]111 6	[6]144/ to 151/	[5]117/ to 127/
Platmen	[5]117/6 to 130/6	116/ & 119/	[19]108/ to 129/	..	[5]136 0	[5]111/ & 115/
Shaft Sinkers—						
Dry Work ..	[5]127/6 & 135/6	127/ & 130/	[19]110/ to 137/4	[5]106 6	[5]135/ & 142/	[5]121/ & 125/
Wet Work ..	[5]132/6 & 140/6	132/ & 137/	[19]118/6 to 146/6	[5]111 6	[6]144/ to 151/	[5]126/ & 132/
Timbermen	[5]126/ & 143/	121/ to 129/	[19]116/3 to 137/4	[5]106 6	[5]142/ to 147/	[5]115/ to 124/

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Railways(*b*)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class	166/ & 178/	165/ & 171/	156 10	160/ & 166/	154/1 & 160/1	160/ & 166/
2nd Class ..	160 0	160 0	151 1	154 0	146 1	154 0
3rd Class	154 0	153 0	144 4	148 0	141 1	148 0
4th Class	148 0	147 0	137 7	142 0	138 1	142 0
5th Class	146 6	141 0	137 7	136 0	138 1	136 0
Firemen—						
1st Class	139/ & 142/	126/ to 132/	130 11	121/ to 127/	129 1	121/ & 127/
2nd Class ..	136 0	123 0	125 3	118 0	123 1	118 0
3rd Class	125/ & 128/	120 0	125 3	115 0	118 1	115 0
Guards—						
1st Class	148 0	149 0	146 2	137/6 & 142/	132 1	125/6 to 131/6
2nd Class ..	137/ to 142/	134/ to 143/	139 8	133/ & 136/	129 1	122 6
3rd Class	124/ to 131/6	134/ to 143/	129 7	124/ & 127/	126 1	119 6
Porters	112/ to 136/	119/ to 122/	113/10 & 117/6	103/ to 128/	105/1 to 112/7	103/ to 121/
Shunters—						
1st Class	146/6 & 149/6	146/ & 149/	149 8	131/6 & 134/6	126/1 to 132/1	122 6
2nd Class	139/ & 142/	138/6 & 141/6	142 4	124/ & 127/	120 1	118 0
3rd Class	124/ & 134/6	122/ to 129/6	138 8	124 0	117 1	118 0
Ordinary	124/ & 131/6	122/ to 129/6	118 11	124 0	117 1	118 0
Signalmen—						
Special	161 6	156 6	137/8 to 149/11	134/6 & 142/6	136 7	..
1st Class	158 6	146 0	135 11	130 0	126 1	121 0
2nd Class ..	152 6	135 6	131 3	127 0	120 1	118 0
3rd Class	146 6	129 6	126 10	122 6	112 7	115 0
4th Class	140 6	125 0	120 3	118 0	108 1	..

(*a*) Excludes district allowances. (*b*) Hours in the above industry are based generally on 88 per fortnight.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Tramways (Electric and Cable)—						
Car Washers or Cleaners	114 0	121 0	119 4	111/ to 113/	108 1	109 6
Conductors—						
1st Year	120/ & 122/	121 0	116/ & 118/6	113/ to 115/	117 1	111 0
2nd Year ..	125 0	124 0	116/ & 121/	115 0	117 1	115 0
3rd Year ..	127 0	127 0	121/ & 131/	119 0	117 1	115 0
Horse Drivers ..	..	122 0	..	..	..	..
Labourers	114 0	115 0	108 0	112/ to 115/	102 1	109 6
Maintenance Men ..	114/ & 120/	124 0	116/7 & 127/	115/ to 118/	111 1	113 6
Motormen—						
1st Year ..	130 6	121 0	116/ & 118/6	115 0	117 1	112 6
2nd Year ..	130 6	124 0	118/6 & 121/	118 0	117 1	116 6
3rd Year ..	130 6	127 0	121/ & 131/	121 0	117 1	116 6
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading	143 0	135 0	154 0	122/ to 124/6	125 1	125 6
Other	121/ to 137/	135 0	139 2	116 0	111 1	118 6
Pitmen	131 0	133 0	120/ to 130/8	115/ to 123/	117 1	121 6
Signalmen	135/ to 140/	130/ & 136/	127/ & 131/	124/ to 130/6	..	..
Track Cleaners ..	113 0	121 0	114 0	112/ to 115/	105/1 & 117/1	110 6

GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Carrying—Merchandise—						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	119 0	115 0	115 0	111 0	111 7	109 0
Two Horses ..	124 0	120 0	120 0	116 0	116 7	114 0
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	121 6	115 0	107 0	111 0	111 7	109 0
Two Horses ..	126 6	120 0	109 9	116 0	116 7	114 0
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	119 0	121 0	122 0	117 0	119 7	115 0
Two Horses ..	124 0	124 0	127 0	120 0	124 7	118 0
Sanitary Carters ..	137/ to 142/	121 0	119 0	117 0	136 1	115 0
Stable Hands ..	118/6 to 123/6	110 6	108 0	106 6	110 7	106 0
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	121/ to 131/	120/ & 124/	117/ & 125/	116/ & 125/	116/7 & 120/7	114/ to 118/
3 tons or over ..	135/ to 139/	127 0	130/ & 135/	123 0	124/7 & 129/7	121 0
Lift Attendants—						
Goods	114 0	117 0	111/ & 113/	105 6	112 5	..
Passenger	114 0	117 0	105/ & 107/	105 6	109 11	..

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Waterside Working—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Wharf Labourers per hour *a*	4 0	4 0	4 0 to 4 5	4 0	4 0	4 0
Passenger Vessels—Interstate *b*—						
Bakers per month			407/6 to 510/*c*			
Barmen ,,			407/6*d*			
Butchers ,,			440/ to 485/*c*			
Cooks—						
Chief ,,			562/6 to 595/*c*			
Second ,,			475/*c*			
Third ,,			407/6*c*			
Ships ,,			462/6*c*			
Pantrymen ,,			430/ and 440/*c*			
Scullerymen ,,			380/*c*			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon ,,			525/*d*			
Second ,,			485/*d*			
Second Saloon ,,			452/6*d*			
Fore Cabin ,,			440/*d*			
Bedroom and Other ,,			395/ to 417/6*d*			
All Vessels—Interstate*c*						
A.B. Seamen per month			442/6			
Boatswains ,,			462/6			
Donkeymen ,,			502/6			
Firemen ,,			482/6			
Greasers ,,			482/6			
Lamp Trimmers ,,			462/6			
Fuel Trimmers ,,			442/6			
Marine Engineers *b e g*—		*Vessels (Steam).*			*Vessels (Steam).*	
Chief per month		*100 N.H.P. and under.*			*Over 100 N.H.P.*	
Second ,,		789/ to 843/			904/ to 1254/	
Third ,,		687/6			724/ to 874/	
Fourth ,,		630/6			634/ to 752/	
5th, 6th, 7th and 8th ,,		..			565/6 to 690/	
		..			553/6	
Merchant Service *b f g*—		Seagoing Passenger Vessels.			Seagoing Cargo Vessels.	
	125 *tons or under.*		*Over 10,000 tons.*	60 *tons or under.*		*Over 10,000 tons.*
Masters per month	799/6		1914/	711/6		1474/
Officers—						
Chief ,,	659/6		874/	599/6		794/
Second ,,	597/6		792/	557/6		734/
Third ,,	..		700/	..		660/
Fourth and Fifth ,,	..		553/6	..		553/6

a Rates of wage quoted are for other than special cargo. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. *c* Not more than 8 hours per day. *d* Not more than 8 hours per day within a spread of 15 consecutive hours when at sea, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. in terminal ports and between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. in intermediate ports. *e* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels. *f* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given. *g* Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours.

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Farming—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
General Hands *a b c* ..	97 0	57/ to 77/	67 0	77 0	72 6	72 0
Harvesters	£137/8 to 175/	£137/8 to 175/	£137/8 to 175/	£137/8 to 175/	£137/8 to 175/	£137/8 to 175/
Milkers	£103 0	£103 0	£103 0	£103 0	£103 0	£103 0
Ploughmen *a b c* ..	90 0	67/ to 80/	80 0	77 0	72 6	79 6
Chaffcutting—						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	119/6 & 122/6	127 6	..	..	102/1 to 134/7	£156 4
Feeders (Stationary mill)	119/6 & 122/6	121 6	..	107 6	102/1 to 134/7	£156 4

For footnotes, see next page.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Gardening—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gardeners	126 6	115/4 to 120/10	110 0	106 0	108 1	109 0
Labourers	108 0	108/ to 114/5	105 0	104 6	102 1	106 0
Nurserymen ..	126 6	112/6 to 123/	110 0	111 0	114 1	109 0
Labourers	108 0	106 0	105 0	104 6	102 1	106 0
Pastoral Workers *d*—						
Cooks *b*	147 9	147 9	226/10 & 236/10	147 9	139 0	147 9
Shearers .. per 100	46/9 & 47/9	46/9 & 47/9	49 6	46/9 & 47/9	41/6 & 42/6	46/9 & 47/9
Shed Hands ..	157 9	157 9	158 4	157 9	160 3	157 9
Wool Pressers ..	162 9	162 9	179 4	162 9	174 3	162 9
Rural Workers—						
Fruit Harvesters ..	[11]110 0	[11]110 0	..	[11]110 0	..	..

a Ruling or predominant rates, see note at commencement of table. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to board and lodging provided. *c* Hours in the farming industry vary considerably, and no reliable particulars can be published. *d* Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 44 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Cooks (Hotels and Restaurants)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Chefs	130/6 to 223/	126/6 to 156/	135/ to 140/	123/6 to 148/6	118/8 & 126/5	109/ to 159/
Cooks—Second ..	121/ to 173/	120/6 to 138/6	125 0	111/ to 118/6	105/2 to 111/	106/6 to 131/6
Cooks—Third ..	121/ to 143/	120 6	125 0	107/6 & 108/6	104 3	106/6 to 121/6
Kitchenmen ..	112 0	114 0	112 6	98 6	102 1	105 0
Hairdressing—						
Hairdressers ..	129 0	[c]124 0	120 0	123 6	122 1	127/ to 152/
Hotels—						
Barmen	122 0	120 0	111 0	115 6	126 1	118 0
Billiard Markers ..	110 0	114 6	110 0	98 6	102 1	105 0
Handymen ..	110 0	114 6	110 0	98 6	102 1	105 0
Lift Attendants ..	110 0	117 0	105 0	105 6	102 1	105 0
Porters—Day Work ..	110 0	114 6	110 0	101 0	102 1	105 0
Porters—Night Work	113 0	114 6	110 0	101 0	107 1	105 0
Waiters—Head ..	117 0	120 0	110 0	108/6 & 111/6	..	111/6 to 124/6
Waiters— Other ..	109 0	114 6	110 0	104 0	103 3	105/ to 111/6
Restaurants—						
Pantrymen ..	117 6	110 0	115 6	100 6	[18]102 1	105 0
Waiters	117/6 & 120/	110 0	115 6	104/ & 108/6	[18]102 1	105/ to 111/6

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Factory Engine Driving—						
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1st Class ..	126/ to 129/	124/ & 127/	132/ & 137/	120/ & 123/	126/1 to 132/1	121/ & 124/
2nd Class ..	123/ to 126/	121/ & 124/	124/ & 129/	117/ & 120/	120/7 to 124/7	118/ & 121/
3rd Class ..	123/ to 126/	121/ & 124/	116/ & 121/	112/ & 117/	114/7 to 117/7	118/ & 121/
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	123 0	121 0	114/ & 119/	110/ & 115/	112/7 to 117/1	118 0
2nd Class ..	118 6	116 6	..	112 6	108/1 to 109/7	113 6
Greasers	118/6 & 123/	116/6 & 121/	114/ & 119/	110/ & 115/	113 1	113/6 & 118/
Trimmers	118 6	116 6	110/ & 115/	106/ & 111/	110 1	113 6

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Municipal—						
Labourers	116 0	115 0	107 0	98 6	102 1	106 0
Street Sweepers ..	116 0	114 0	107 0	100 6	102/1 to 104/1	109 0
Shop and Other Assistants						
Boot Salesmen ..	131 0	[12]129 6	125 0	115 6	118 10	[7]130 0
Chemists' Assistants ..	149 6	[12]132 6	146 6	111 0	121 10	114 0
Clerks	118/ to 125/6	[12]127 0	120 0	115 0	109/11 to 121/5	[12]115/ to 132/6
Drapery Salesmen ..	131 0	[12]134 0	125 0	115 6	118 10	[7]130 0
Furniture Salesmen ..	131 0	[12]138 0	125 0	113 0	118 10	[10]132 0
Grocery Salesmen ..	131 0	[12]123 0	125 0	110 6	118 10	[7]121 6
Hardware Salesmen ..	131 0	[12]126 0	125 0	119 6	118 10	[10]132 6
Railway Bookstall Assistants ..	131 0	109 6	125 0	110 6	118 10	[10]115/ to 132/6
Tobacconists' Assts. ..	131 0	120/6 to 130/6	125 0	109 6	118 10	[12]106 9
Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &c.—						
Night Watchmen ..	119 6	[12]121 10	108 0	[15]119 9	121/ & 124/2	..
Office Cleaners ..	124 0	116 6	105/ to 110/	98 6	115 2	..
Packers—General ..	124/6 & 127/6	122 6	110 0	114 0	118 10	118 0
Storemen—General ..	123/ & 125/6	122 6	110 0	114 0	118 10	118 0
Wholesale Grocery—						
Packers	123 6	117/ & 122 6	110 0	112 6	118 10	118 0
Storemen	122 0	117/ & 122/6	110 0	112 6	118 10	118 0
Wholesale Hardware—						
Packers	125/ to 127/	122 0	110 0	112 6	118 10	118 0
Storemen	122/ to 124/	122 0	110 0	112 6	118 10	118 0

SECTION VI.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1946.

(*See Explanatory Note at top of page* 172.)

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Biscuit Making—						
Adult Females ..	65 6	85 6	63 0	68 4	56 10	51 6
Confectionery—						
Adult Females ..	64 6	67 0	65 6	68 4	55 1	65 6
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Fillers	72 3	72 3	69 6	72 3	55 1	72 3
Other Adults ..	66 3	66 3	69 6	66 3	55 1	66 3
Tea Packing—						
Head Women ..	58 9	71 3	68/ to 77/6	..	65 8	..
Other Adults ..	58 9	62 9	64 6	60 0	65 8	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)—						
Ringers	61 6	71 8	..	..	57 2	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	69/ & 79/6	79 2	..	..	57 2	..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bootmaking—						
Machinists — Wax Thread	85 3	85 3	85 3	85 3	..	85 3
Other Adults ..	71/9 to 77/9	71/9 to 77/9	71/9 to 77/9	71/9 to 77/9	67 5	71/9 to77/9
Dressmaking—						
Adult Females ..	79/6 to 84/3	79/6 to 84/3	79/6 to 84/3	79/6 to 84/3	58/7 to 69/7	79/6 to 84/3
Dyers and Cleaners—						
Adult Females ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	55/1 to 69/7	79 6
Hat Making (Straw)—						
Finishers & Machinists	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	..	79 6
Millinery—						
Adult Females ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	60 7	79 6
Shirt Making—						
Adult Females ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	58/7 to 67/7	79 6
Tailoring (Order)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	73 11	79 6
Trousers, Vest Hands	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	64/1 to 67/7	79 6
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	73 11	79 6
Trousers, Vest Hands	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	64/1 to 67/7	79 6
Tailoring (Ready-made)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	62 7	79 6
Trousers, Vest Hands	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	60 7	79 6
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	62 7	79 6
Trousers, Vest Hands	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	59 7	79 6
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)—						
Comb Minders ..	69 6	69 6	62 0	68 6	69 6	69 6
Darners and Menders	71/6 & 75/6	71/6 & 75/6	67 6	70/6 & 74/6	71/6 & 75/6	71/6 & 75/6
Warpers	71 6	71 6	64 6	70 6	71 6	71 6
Weavers—Loom ..	72 6	72 6	67 6	71 6	72 6	72 6
Other Adults ..	62/6 to 69/6	62/6 to 69/6	62 0	61/6 to 68/6	62/6 to 69/6	62/6 to 69/6
Underclothing—						
Adult Females ..	79 6	79 6	79 6	79 6	58/7 to 67/6	79 6

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Bedding and Furniture—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bedding Machinists ..	67 0	67 6	68 3	59 6	62 5	60 6
Picture Frame Workers	70 0	67 6	..	64 0	62 5	65 0
Bookbinding—						
Folders and Sewers ..	69/ & 70/	68/ & 69/	87/6 & 112/4	65/6 & 66/6	65/ & 66/	65/6 & 66/6
Brush Making—						
Adult Females ..	66 6	65 0	62 6	58 6	60 1	..
Candle and Soap Making—						
Adult Females ..	65 3	68/6 & 76/	..	66/3 & 75/3	59 7	..
Cardboard Box Making—						
Box Makers ..	67 0	66 6	64 0	63 6	63 0	63 6
Other Adults ..	61 0	60 6	58 0	57 6	57 0	57 6
Jewellery—						
Chainmakers ..	88 6	133 6	82 6	..	67 8	..
Gilders	77 6	122 0	67 6	73 6	67 8	..
Polishers	77 6	133 6	67 6	73 6	67 8	..
Scratch Brushers ..	77 6	66 0	67 6	73 6	67 8	..
Leather Goods—						
Adult Females ..	69/6 to 131/	69/6 to 131/	69/6 to 131/	65/6 & 127/6	63 7	69/6 to 131/
Paper Making—						
Adult Females ..	68 0	67/6 & 70/	..	..	..	..
Paper Bag Making—						
Adult Females ..	61/ to 67/	60/6 to 66/6	58/ to 64/	57/6 & 63/6	57/ & 63/	57/6 to 63/6
Potteries—						
Adult Females ..	61/6 & 69/	68 3	65 6	..	..	..
Printing—						
Jobbing Office Assistants	69 0	68 6	66 0	65 6	65 0	65 6
Lithographic Feeders	68 0	67 6	65 0	64 6	64 0	64 6
Rubber Working—						
Adult Females ..	77 3	76 6	66 6	..	..	..
Tent and Tarpaulin Making						
Machinists ..	69 6	69 6	69 6	65 6	59 1	69 6

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are **not** provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Hotels—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Barmaids	84 0	120 0	95 6	..	113 0	83 6
Housemaids ..	67 6	70 6	68 0	64 0	68 4	63/ & 67/6
Laundresses ..	73 6	73 6	74 0	68 0	68 4	71 0
Waitresses—Head ..	73 6	73 6	68 0	69 0	..	78/ & 84/6
,, Other ..	68 6	69 6	68 0	64 0	68 4	63/ & 71/6
Laundries—						
General Hands ..	64 9	60 9	67 0	72 4	63 1	58 6
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	66 9	72 9	67 0	76 4	67 1	58/6 & 69/6
Sorters	66 9	60 9	67 0	76 4	63 1	79 6
Starchers	64 9	70 3	67 0	72 4	63 1	58 6
Washers	64 9	75/9 & 116/6	67 0	72 4	73 10	69 6
Office Cleaning—						
Adult Females ..	72/6 & 78/6	107 5	75/6 to 79/6	61 0	65 9	..
Restaurants—						
Pantry Maids ..	75 6	64 0	71 0	59 0	57 8	64 6
Waitresses ..	75 6	64 0	71 0	60/6 & 65/	59 7	63/ & 71/

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Clerks, &c.—						
Cashiers	81 6	77 0	90 6	71 6	(*a*)71 4	[10]65/6 to 153/
Clerical Assistants ..	84 9	77 0	90 6	71 6	71 4	[10]65/6 to 153/
Saleswomen—						
Boot	81/6 & 131/	[12]52/6 to 68/6	79 0	64 0	65/8 & 70/11	[7]65/6 & 110/6
Drapery	81 6	[12]110/ to 127/	125 0	119 10	65/8 & 74/7	[7]110 6
Fruit and Confectionery	68 0	65 3	79 0	64 0	65 8	[11]67 6
Newsagent and Bookstall	81 6	[12]46/6 to 63/6	79 0	64 0	65 8	[10]65/ & 70/
Tobacconists ..	81 6	[12]77/ to 104/6	79 0	65 1	65 8	[11]80 0

(*a*) 38 hours, except in special circumstances.

SECTION VII.

Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour : Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand.

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1946.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1946.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1946.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
Furniture—												
Cabinet Makers	107 0	44	142 0	44	82 3	47	111 10	44	110 0	40	132 9	40
Upholsterers	107 0	44	142 0	44	82 3	47	111 10	44	110 0	40	132 9	40
French Polishers	107 0	44	142 0	44	82 3	47	..	..	110 0	40	132 9	40
Sawmilling—												
Machinists, Planing	91 0 and 100 0	44	129 0 and 132 0	44	..	..	..	..	103 4	40	129 3	40
,, Shaping	105 0	44	138 0	44	..	..	..	..	103 4	40	129 3	40
Sawyers, Band or Jig	95 0 to 108 0	44	126 0 to 141 0	44	..	..	..	..	96 8	40	118 9	40
,, Circular	95 0 to 102 0	44	126 0 to 134 0	44	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	136 3	40
Engineering, and Metal Working—												
Fitters and Turners	108 0 and 112 0	44	144 0	44	70 11	47	106 11	47	110 0	40	134 9	40
Patternmakers	120 0	44	152 0	44	71 3	47	..	..	110 0	40	134 9	40
Moulders (Iron)	90 0 to 111 0	44	122 0 to 143 0	44	70 11	47	108 11	47	110 0	40	138 0	40

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA GREAT BRITAIN AND NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1946.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1946.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1946.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
Engineering, and Metal Working—*contd.*	*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*	
Tinsmiths	101 6	44	131 0 to 144 0	44	..	..	..	..	110 0	40	132 9	40
Milling (Flour)—												
Millers (shift)	97 0 to 107 6	44	144 6 to 155 0	44	71 0 and 73 0	42	106 0 and 108 0	42	99 4 (*a*)	40	127 6 (*a*)	40
Packermen	85 0	44	129 6	44	..	..	..	..	95 4	40	124 0	40
Bootmakers	104 0	44	135 6	44	51 6 to 58 0	45	85 0	45	91 8	40	131 0	40
Tailoring (Ready-made)—												
Cutters	101 0	44	139 0	44	..	..	..	..	102 6	40	131 0	40
Pressers (Coat)	98 0	44	136 0	44	..	..	..	..	92 6	40	131 0	40
Trimmers	98 0	44	136 0	44	..	..	..	..	92 6	40	131 0	40
Bookbinding—												
Bookbinders	108 0	44	140 0	44	80 0	45	116 0	43½	107 6	40	130 2	40
Paper Rulers	108 0	44	140 0	44	80 0	45	116 0	43½	107 6	40	130 2	40

Printing (Daily Newspapers)—														
Compositors (Day Work)	131 0	44	174 6	40	89 0	45	125 0	43½	107 6	40	130 2	40
Readers (Day Work)	139 6	44	182 6	40	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	138 11	40
Printing (Jobbing Offices)—												
Compositors	108 0 and 117 0	44	140 0 and 149 0	44	89 0	45	125 0	43½	107 6	40	130 2	40
Linotype Operators (Day Work) ..	117 0	44	149 0	44	..	..	..	..	115 0	40	138 0	40
Building—												
Bricklayers	121 0	44	155 0	44	77 0	44	115 6	44	115 0	40	138 0	40
Carpenters	121 0	44	155 2	44	77 0	44	115 6	44	112 6	40	137 9	40
Labourers—Carpenters	87 0	44	117 0	44	57 9	44	92 7	44	93 4	40	132 9	40
Concrete Workers ..	87 0	44	117 0	44	..	..	92 7	44	93 4	40	132 9	40
Earth Excavators ..	87 0	44	117 0	44	..	..	92 7	44	93 4	40	132 9	40
Painters	114 4	44	145 6	44	73 4	44	92 7	44	110 0	40	132 9	40
Paperhangers	114 4	44	145 6	44	77 0	44	92 7	44	110 0	40	132 9	40
Plasterers	121 0	44	155 0	44	77 0	44	92 7	44	115 0	40	143 3	40
Plumbers	125 0	44	153 10	44	77 0	44	92 7	44	110 0	40	141 4	40
Tramways—												
Conductors—												
1st year	87 0	44	122 0	44	73 0	48	108 6	48	95 10	40	120 9	40
2nd year	90 0	44	125 0	44	to		to		and		125 3	40
3rd year	93 0	44	127 0	44	82 0		117 6		100 0		125 3	40
Motormen—		44	130 6	44	73 0	48	108 6	48	100 0		125 3	40
1st year	99 0	44	130 6	44	to		to		and	40	128 10	40
2nd year	99 0	44	130 6	44	82 0		117 6		103 4		128 10	40
3rd year	99 0											
Carrying (Merchandise)—		44	119 0	44	60 0	48	90 0	48	93 0	40	121 2	40
Carters (1 horse)	92 0				and 61 0		and 91 0					
Municipal—Labourers	94 6	44	116 0	44	58 8 to 64 6	47	103 0	47	90 0	40	118 9	40

(*a*) Kilnmen.

SECTION VIII.

COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

(* *Base of Each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities,* 1911 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Index-numbers.						Nominal Wages Adult Males.	Real Wages. (*b*)	Percentage of Unemployment among Trade Unionists.
	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms). (*a*)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All Items of Household Expenditure.			
Year—									
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	(*c*)1,000	(*c*)1,000	(*c*)1,000	1,000	1,000	4.7
1914 ..	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,081	948	8.3
1921 ..	1,902	1,410	1,717	1,883	1,537	1,680	1,826	1,087	11.2
1929 ..	1,866	1,754	1,824	1,506	1,533	1,713	1,972	1,151	11.1
1932 ..	1,425	1,336	1,390	1,215	1,458	1,377	1,639	1,168	29.0
1933 ..	1,342	1,314	1,332	1,190	1,447	1,335	1,584	1,187	25.1
1939 ..	1,657	1,577	1,626	1,271	1,465	1,526	1,846	1,211	9.7
1942 ..	1,843	1,596	1,742	1,977	1,693	1,809	2,164	1,196	1.6
1943 ..	1,855	1,595	1,749	2,177	1,766	1,876	2,309	1,231	1.1
1944 ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,168	1,773	1,867	2,326	1,246	1.2
1945 ..	1,849	1,595	1,746	2,155	1,767	1,868	2,339	1,252	1.2
1946 ..	1,852	1,596	1,748	2,276	1,776	1,900	2,400	1,263	1.4
Quarter—									
1937.									
March ..	1,510	1,470	1,495	1,205	1,452	1,433	1,662	1,160	9.9
June ..	1,507	1,484	1,498	1,221	1,461	1,441	1,680	1,166	9.7
September ..	1,526	1,499	1,516	1,230	1,464	1,454	1,721	1,184	9.3
December ..	1,540	1,510	1,529	1,245	1,467	1,465	1,763	1,203	8.2
1938.									
March ..	1,540	1,521	1,534	1,247	1,466	1,467	1,778	1,212	8.0
June ..	1,572	1,534	1,558	1,255	1,461	1,482	1,787	1,206	8.6
September ..	1,616	1,547	1,589	1,256	1,463	1,500	1,806	1,204	9.2
December ..	1,608	1,559	1,589	1,256	1,463	1,501	1,823	1,215	8.9
1939.									
March ..	1,673	1,568	1,631	1,258	1,461	1,524	1,826	1,198	9.6
June ..	1,654	1,575	1,623	1,264	1,461	1,522	1,847	1,214	9.5
September ..	1,645	1,582	1,620	1,264	1,463	1,520	1,854	1,220	10.2
December ..	1,657	1,584	1,628	1,297	1,472	1,536	1,858	1,210	9.3
1940.									
March ..	1,640	1,587	1,620	1,342	1,481	1,542	1,864	1,209	7.9
June ..	1,688	1,589	1,649	1,415	1,518	1,583	1,875	1,184	10.5
September ..	1,676	1,591	1,642	1,450	1,533	1,590	1,903	1,197	7.4
December ..	1,710	1,593	1,663	1,572	1,542	1,635	1,912	1,169	6.2
1941.									
March ..	1,713	1,595	1,666	1,598	1,581	1,651	1,966	1,191	5.3
June ..	1,679	1,595	1,646	1,669	1,594	1,660	1,984	1,195	3.6
September ..	1,673	1,595	1,643	1,705	1,633	1,675	2,002	1,195	3.2
December ..	1,705	1,596	1,662	1,787	1,644	1,707	2,034	1,192	2.9
1942.									
March ..	1,771	1,597	1,701	1,838	1,667	1,746	2,091	1,198	1.8
June ..	1,832	1,596	1,736	1,942	1,673	1,793	2,127	1,186	1.7
September ..	1,887	1,595	1,768	2,028	1,689	1,835	2,182	1,189	1.6
December ..	1,880	1,595	1,764	2,098	1,741	1,860	2,257	1,213	1.3
1943.									
March ..	1,860	1,595	1,752	2,130	1,749	1,863	2,283	1,225	1.2
June ..	1,891	1,595	1,771	2,216	1,763	1,897	2,292	1,208	1.1
September ..	1,853	1,594	1,748	2,192	1,773	1,880	2,331	1,240	1.1
December ..	1,815	1,595	1,726	2,171	1,778	1,864	2,329	1,249	1.1
1944.									
March ..	1,824	1,595	1,731	2,167	1,775	1,864	2,322	1,246	1.0
June ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,160	1,773	1,865	2,322	1,245	1.4
September ..	1,852	1,595	1,748	2,166	1,772	1,873	2,327	1,242	1.2
December ..	1,827	1,595	1,733	2,180	1,770	1,867	2,332	1,249	1.2
1945.									
March ..	1,838	1,595	1,739	2,149	1,767	1,863	2,333	1,252	1.1
June ..	1,854	1,595	1,749	2,141	1,767	1,866	2,336	1,252	1.1
September ..	1,860	1,595	1,752	2,140	1,767	1,868	2,340	1,253	1.2
December ..	1,842	1,595	1,742	2,189	1,767	1,874	2,348	1,253	1.2
1946.									
March ..	1,853	1,595	1,748	2,201	1,772	1,881	2,354	1,251	1.4
June ..	1,863	1,595	1,754	2,259	1,776	1,900	2,360	1,242	1.3
September ..	1,839	1,596	1,741	2,299	1,776	1,902	2,378	1,250	1.4
December ..	1,854	1,596	1,750	2,343	1,781	1,918	2,507	1,307	1.4
1947.									
March ..	1,915	1,596	1,785	2,305	1,798	1,933	2,527	1,307	1.4
June ..	1,945	1,597	1,803	2,319	1,802	1,948	2,545	1,306	1.2

(*a*) See footnote (*b*) on page 9.

(*b*) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" series index of retail prices.

(*c*) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the Food and Rent of All Houses ("A" Series) Index.

* The index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 *in each group or combination* is made equal to 1,000.

SECTION IX.

CONTROL OF WAGES DURING AND SINCE THE WAR.

In continuation of the summary appearing on pages 55 to 59 relative to the control of wages during and since the war, important amendments were made in the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations in accordance with the Government's declared policy of making progressive relaxations of the "wage-pegging" regulations as circumstances permitted. These amendments were promulgated by Statutory Rules 1947, No. 145 of 8th October, 1947, simultaneously with the proclamation of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 10 of 1947, and the notification of the appointment of sixteen Conciliation Commissioners provided for by this Act (*see* p. 49).

As already indicated, this control was exercised under Part V. (Industrial Provisions) of the Regulations, and the amendments repealed the whole of the Regulations under this Part, substituting therefor Regulations 14 to 16, the provisions of which are summarized below.

Complete freedom was restored to all industrial authorities to regulate wages, hours and conditions of labour within their jurisdiction, subject only to considerations of the national interest. It will thus no longer be necessary for such authorities to seek the concurrence of the Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, etc., before altering rates of remuneration beyond the limits previously specified in the regulations.

While industrial authorities have been given full power to determine rates or remuneration entirely on the merits of the claims put before them, the Government felt that it must retain some measure of restraint on the freedom of employers and employees to make agreements which might be arranged without due regard to the national interest. Under present circumstances it was considered more than ever necessary to keep a close watch on domestic price levels, and employers, therefore, could not be permitted complete freedom to offer sectional increases in pay at the expense of consumers, in the hope of bidding labour away from other industries. In order to avoid this danger the new regulations require that, except in special cases, the award rates shall be the maximum as well as minimum rates. Moreover, rates of remuneration may not be varied by "consent awards" or industrial agreements unless an industrial authority has reviewed the circumstances and satisfied itself, by hearing the parties or otherwise, that the proposed variations are not opposed to the national interest.

Where employers are already lawfully paying individual employees or classes of employees a margin above the award rate, either for special skill or for other reasons, the regulations do not prevent them from continuing to do so.

The regulations also allow, as before, an alteration in a rate of remuneration as a result of promotion, completion of a period of probation, or the granting of an increment within an established range of rates.

Variations are also allowed where they result from the operation of a bonus, piecework or other system of payment by results at present in force. New systems of this kind may be introduced provided they have been approved by an industrial authority and that they relate the rate of remuneration to the output or production of an employee or group of employees.

The new regulations also leave the appropriate authority entirely free to reduce hours of labour. The effect of the regulations is, in general, to require employers to observe the hours prescribed by the competent authority, but they will in future be permitted to exercise a discretion where some but not all of their employees in a particular establishment have had their hours reduced by or under legislation coming into force after 13th June, 1947. In such cases the employer is not prevented by the regulations from deciding or agreeing to make a similar reduction in the hours of work of those employees whose hours have not already been reduced. The fact that such employees would then receive the same pay for less hours is not considered to increase their remuneration.

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